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THE MONTCLARION

#MSUStudentVoice Since 1928

Volume XXIX, Issue 23

Thursday, April 11, 2019

themontclarion.org

#FocusImmigration

SPECIAL
EDITION

Student Artist Profile: Paolo Punay

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THE MONTCLARION

School of Communication and Media, Room 2035
Montclair, N.J. 07043

The Montclarion is a publication of Montelican Publishing, Inc. published weekly, except during examinations, summer and winter sessions. The Montclarion is funded by student fees distributed by Montclair State University and incoming advertising revenue. The views expressed in the Opinion section, with the exception of the Main Editorial, do not necessarily reflect the views of The Montclarion. The Montclarion has a commitment to accuracy and clarity and will print corrections or clarifications if information is found to be incorrect. To report an error of fact or a Letter to the Editor, email the Editor-in-Chief at montclarionchief@gmail.com. Information reported in the Red Hawk Rap Sheet comes directly from the MSU Police Department. We do not print retractions to the rap sheet unless information directly from the police report is incorrect. We can print an update to the events only if the newspaper is given access to relevant documents to corroborate the information. All submissions to the newspaper become property of The Montclarion. We do not print articles from anonymous contributors.

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A Letter from the Editor:



It has come to my attention that a student at the annual tuition hearing suggested cutting funding to The Montclarion. The Montclarion is independent from the university but does receive funding through a small student fee. We have been able to deliver our stories through this funding and have added in important multimedia tools to inform students of events and issues occurring on campus. Without this organization, there would be no critical eye toward the administration. The Montclarion has been able to raise awareness about issues and policies regarding the university that directly affect them. The Montclarion gives students a voice to question the university. Without The Montclarion, there is no platform for students to use their voices to challenge the administration.

The Montclarion provides students a place to refine skills needed to work in the field of journalism. It is a multiplatform news organization that cannot be found anywhere else on campus. It is a learning experience for this type of career.

Thank you to everyone who has been reading and watching our content. Our staff members spend around 25 hours weekly putting together new issues. We will continue to provide students with a platform for their concerns as well as be a place for studnets to gain experience in writing, editing, photography, video and more. While our goal is to positively impact every student on campus, with each issue I hope each more people realize the positive impact this organization has.

Best,
Haley Wells
Editor-in-Chief

#FocusImmigration Logo Disclaimer



This logo is placed next to every article that is related to the School of Communication and Media’s “Focus Immigration” project. This project is aimed on the topic of immigration and intends to display real accounts of the immigrant experience in the United States through students, faculty and staff at Montclair State.

Red Hawk Rap Sheet



Graphic by Claudia Habrahamston

Thursday, April 4

Sinatra Hall: Patrol officers responded in regards to a report of harassment and terroristic threats. Officers were met on scene by a female student who reported receiving several harassing and threatening text messages from an unknown phone number. The student reported that she was going to follow up with the Family Court Division.

Saturday, April 6

Basie Hall: Patrol officers observed that a fire exit sign was knocked off the wall and vandalized on the first floor. This incident is under investigation.

Friday, April 5

On Campus: Student Jamir Reddick was issued a special complaint summons for defiant trespassing while on the campus of Montclair State University. The student was escorted from campus without incident and issued a follow-up court date in the Clifton Municipal Court.

Sunday, April 7

Mallory Hall: Patrol officers responded in regards to a report of theft. Officers met on scene with a university professor who advised that several electronic items were stolen from within a classroom. This incident is under investigation.

Anyone who has information regarding these incidents is urged to call the police station at T-I-P-S (8477). All calls are strictly confidential.

#FOCUS

IMMIGRATION

Adrianna Caraballo
Assistant News Editor

University President Susan Cole announced that the Montclair State University Police Force has to abide by the State's new rules that protect immigrants and their families.

The State of New Jersey has been enforcing new rules to protect immigrants and their families since November 2018. According to the New Jersey government, the rules restrict the assistance the state and state police officers can give to federal immigration authorities like Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

Montclair State reported to the New Jersey Office of the Secretary of Higher Education that they had 58 DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) recipients. This number was verified by the director of International Employment and Immigration Elizabeth A. Gill.

A police officer in the state of New Jersey cannot stop someone who they think is undocumented. They can not question, arrest, search, detain or ask about the person's immigration status. The only time a person can be questioned or arrested is if they are under a criminal investigation and a warrant is present.

According to Capt. Kieran Barrett of the University Police Department (UPD), they have been following these practices all along.

"There hasn't been a change in our policy so much as we're happy to see that New Jersey Attorney General's office put out guidelines for all police officers," Barrett said. "This is what we've been doing all along. We've been doing what I think is the right thing."

UPD Enforces New State Policy to Protect Undocumented Students



The University Police Department does not ask students about their immigration status, nor do they plan to unless they have a warrant for an arrest.

Carly Phelps | The Montclarion

Before the enforcement of the new rules, law enforcement was using their judgment regarding immigration.

"Here in the state of New Jersey, there was very unclear direction to law enforcement what we should be doing for immigration enforcement," Barrett said.

Thus far, there has been no issue with immigration status at the university. The police department does not have on record the number of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) students the university has.

The police department here is not involved in immigration

detention, and they do not ask about immigration status.

"We as a university and we as a police department are not in the business of checking immigration status or turning people over to federal authorities," Barrett said.

Barrett continued saying that the UPD would only involve themselves if ICE came with a warrant for the arrest of a student for criminal activity.

"If they contact us, we will refer them to their own methods for that, in other words, they don't just come here and take people away," Barrett said.

Information regarding the citizenship and immigration/visa

status of individual students is not accessible.

"We try to talk each semester with our international student organizations and let them know their rights and some of the things they need to be aware of so that they know that they can trust us," Barrett said. "We have to make sure that they feel welcome here and that they can get the help that they need."

According to Montclair State's policy on immigration, information regarding the citizenship and immigration/visa status of an individual student will not be shared with organizations outside the university

community, including federal organizations.

Senior psychology major Emilie Fernandez shared her thoughts on the protection of undocumented students at Montclair State.

"I feel like it is an important step for Montclair State. It should be passed for other areas," Fernandez said. "It's a safe space for all of us, regardless of our status."

Members of the Student Government Association were approached and declined to comment.

Keeping Up With The SGA: A Silent Vote

Sam Carliner
Staff Writer

It's election season for the Student Government Association (SGA), but a number of Montclair State University students have heard little about it.

Robyn Marella, a junior studying sociology, learned about the SGA her freshman year through getting involved with Student Life At Montclair (SLAM) but felt that she was in the minority.

"We were talking about [the election] at one of our meetings for my sorority, and only one other person knew that it was going on, out of 80 [people]," Marella said.

On Wednesday, April 3, a debate of the SGA candidates was held in the Student Center Rathskeller. Many of the candidates for the executive board positions, all of whom are running unopposed, acknowl-

edged the lack of awareness on campus about the SGA.

Executive president candidate Jherel Saunders-Dittimus explained his encounter with the lack of awareness when he was getting student signatures in order to run for the position.

"Going around getting signatures for my packet, a lot of people were questioning, 'Why am I writing my name down? What is this for?'" Saunders-Dittimus said.

Student board of trustees candidate Fathia Balgahoom said she encountered similar reactions while getting signatures.

When asked about how to increase the SGA's presence, many of the candidates offered creative ideas. Saunders-Dittimus suggested setting up a table outside of Car Parc Diem to help inform commuter students about the SGA's role on campus. He also proposed that the entire executive board

could do more to show up at campus events together.

Executive secretary candidate Sharese Sumter focused on promoting the SGA through social media, a tactic that the current secretary Jillian Royal has been using.

Sumter also explained she's met many commuters who don't attend events on campus due to time conflicts and wants to work on scheduling more events at times that work best for commuters.

After the debate, students in the Rathskeller were given the opportunity to ask questions, and many students did. Questions were asked about how the candidates would handle working with people with cultural differences, how they could better represent organizations that feel underrepresented and how they could better include transfer students in the community.

Current SGA treasurer Vin-



Sam Carliner | The Montclarion

From left to right: Executive president nominee Jherel Saunders-Dittimus, vice president nominee Jonathan Varano, executive secretary nominee Sharese Sumter, student board of trustees nominee Fathia Balgahoom and treasurer nominee Rama Moulays pose together in the Rat during the SGA debate.

cent Osei asked the candidates several questions covering topics, such as conflict resolution, keeping clear communication and maintaining professional relationships with organizations. At the end of the event, Osei felt optimistic about all of the candidates running.

More information about all

of the candidates is available on the SGA's Instagram account, @sga_msu, and on HawkSync. Voting for the candidates and several referendum questions is currently open to all students on HawkSync. The results will be announced at an SGA meeting on Friday.

#FOCUS

IMMIGRATION

University’s ‘Latin Day’ Sheds Light on Undocumented Students

St. Peter’s University DACA activists visit Montclair State to educate students

Emely Alba
Staff Writer

A group of “Dreamer” activists from Saint Peter’s University, including an undocumented immigrant student, came to Montclair State University to discuss a special center for undocumented students at their school.

The activists primarily discussed the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), which is an immigration policy that protects undocumented youth from deportation and provides them with work permits.

President of the Latino Caucus and Assistant Director of the Educational Opportunity Fund Carmen Reyes Cuevas is the creator of Latina Day and wanted to address this topic of immigration.

“The [immigration] committee decided that this was a good topic for us to address, and there were a lot of women in the panel,” Cuevas said. “Something that our students and staff should become aware of is that we have DACA students on campus, and we just want to make sure that we are informed so that we can help those students.”

Featured speaker and Saint Peter’s freshman Maria Del Cielo Mendez Varillas spoke about her experience as a DACA recipient and the struggles of having to campaign.

“I went to the office of Congressman Lance the day after DACA was rescinded and I told him, ‘I need you to stand up for me,’ and he said something sort of along the lines that I didn’t matter,” Varillas said. “I’ve gotten picked up to go to those rallies and even my Uber Drivers were like, ‘Do you think anything is going to actually come out of that?’ It’s just like people really doubt their own community power.”

Varillas continued, speaking about how the Saint Peter’s center for undocumented students has supported her.



Erica Martinez (left) and Maria Del Cielo Mendez Varillas (right) speak about the Dream and Promise Act.

Emely Alba | The Montclarion

“By having events like Latina Day, students and parents can educate themselves about different opportunities offered to them and learn how to take advantage of the different resources,”

- Adonis Taveras, freshman business administration major



Erica Martinez (left) and Maria Del Cielo Mendez Varillas (right) talk about how the Dream and Promise Act is the most inclusive for DACA recipients.

Emely Alba | The Montclarion

“Whenever we have meetings, we always talk about what’s going on and we keep each other updated on actions, [such as] if someone’s doing a sit-in or someone’s doing a march,” Martinez said.

Unlike Saint Peter’s, Montclair State does not currently have an undocumented student center.

As a result of hearing about Saint Peter’s undocumented center, Cuevas thinks that a center for undocumented students at Montclair State would create some sort of guidance for undocumented students.

“I’m hoping that we can have some type of committee because we need to get the word out,” Cuevas said. “I think

[with] those [undocumented] students, a lot of them don’t get a lot of information.”

She continued saying that undocumented students should be given guidance through the application process so they do not get discouraged.

People who attended the Latina Day event were inspired by intentions and actions of the activists from Saint Peter’s University.

Freshman business administration major Adonis Taveras thought Latina Day was overall educational and inspiring.

“By having events like Latina Day, students and parents can educate themselves about different opportunities offered to them and learn how to take

advantage of the different resources,” Taveras said. “Regarding the three girls presenting, I commend them for what they do. They are very strong, relatable to a lot of people and very inspiring.”

Taveras continued, saying that a center for undocumented students here at Montclair State would be a great idea.

“I don’t know what types of programs Montclair [State] offers for undocumented students,” Taveras said. “But having a center for undocumented students at Montclair [State], where they can come and talk and educate themselves on the different opportunities offered to them would be beneficial for a lot of students.”

Upcoming Earth Day Event Promotes Sustainability Initiatives

Haley Wells
Editor-in-Chief

While Earth Day is on April 22, Montclair State University students can prepare for the green holiday on April 12 with a special student fair revolving around sustainability.

The PSEG Institute for Sustainability Studies (PSEGISS) is hosting the Point of Intervention (POI) tour on campus from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. with special panel speakers starting afterward at 1:30 p.m.

Dann Truitt, the program coordinator for PSEGISS, believes this tour challenges consumption economy and spreads the message that “nobody can do everything, but everybody can do something.”

“It’s a great opportunity for individuals to explore various facets of sustainability, including environmental, fashion, donation, food and more,” Truitt said.

PSEGISS is funded by PSEG, but the institute itself helps support research on campus regarding STEM initiatives. It even supports community projects and events surrounding sustainability in the town of Montclair. PSEGISS also has a Green Team internship program where students are put into transdisciplinary teams to partner with corporations looking to become more sustainable.

The tour is set up like a fair and will be hosted on the Student Center fourth floor, due to inclement weather. The theme

of the fair will be titled “Passport for Sustainability” and will host different “countries” created by PSEGISS ambassadors. These countries will represent each ambassador’s passions and will demonstrate sustainable actions depending on the message of their country.

Different on-campus organizations will also be present for students to interact with, such as Red Hawk Food Pantry, Animal Activists Club, Community Garden and Environmental Club. Off-campus organizations, like Goodwill, will also be in attendance to spread sustainable initiatives and to collect donations.

Sophomore sustainability science major Lauren Willett is one of the five Montclair State Earth Day ambassadors for PSEGISS as well as the project manager for the POI tour. Previously, Willett was a PSEGISS Green Team intern and was encouraged by PSEGISS Director Amy Tuininga to become an Earth Day ambassador.

“The first thing in my head was I want to do something with Earth Day because I feel like it’s not representative enough for the campus, especially since we’re such a large campus,” Willett said. “I feel like people should know more about sustainability and should be aware of how they can incorporate sustainability in their lives.”

Willett wants this event to be fun and interactive for students



PSEGISS Media Manager Ariana Leyton (left) and PSEGISS Earth Day Ambassador Lauren Willett (right) discuss planning the POI tour.

Olivia Kearns | The Montclarion

as opposed to just a presentation on sustainability. She also hopes students gain a better understanding of sustainability and how they can incorporate it into their own lives.

“I want [students] to know how they can take up sustainable initiatives,” Willett said. “I want everyone to have a better understanding of how they can be environmentally friendly, even though campus might not represent that.”

Willett defines sustainability as incorporating things into one’s life that are environmentally friendly and benefit the environment and the individual, socially and fiscally.

“Just being conscious of your waste production and being

conscious of how to reduce your waste consumption,” Willett said.

Willett stressed how important it is for students to make donations as well. Organizations, like Goodwill and Red Hawk Food Pantry, will be collecting donations. Students can contribute food, clothes and electronic waste products to the respective companies.

Truitt explained that though faculty, staff and corporate partnerships were present, student ambassadors deserve all the credit for bringing POI to Montclair State.

“POI is visiting Montclair State University and PSEGISS couldn’t be prouder,” Truitt said. “PSEGISS student sus-

tainability ambassadors have taken the lead in coordinating the day’s events.”

Ariana Leyton is a Montclair State alumna and the media manager for PSEGISS. She graduated with a bachelor’s degree in sustainability science and a minor in communication studies.

Leyton hopes the POI tour allows students to gain a better understanding of PSEGISS and sustainability as a whole.

“People don’t realize that everything you do really can revolve around sustainability,” Leyton said. “It’s just being conscious about the decisions that you make and how that affects the Earth, other people and yourself in the long run.”

University Installs Electric Car Charging Stations in Campus Parking Garages

Montclair State attempts to be more environmentally friendly by supporting electric cars

Carly Henriquez
Assistant Opinion Editor

Montclair State University recently announced a new implementation of electric vehicle charging stations that are now available in the Red Hawk Deck and Carpe Diem parking garages.

Montclair State’s official news site posted a statement on Thursday, March 28, addressing the new rules and regulations in which all faculty, students and visitors must abide by when operating the stations.

Assistant Facility Manager of Parking Services JC Scull spoke on the behalf of the pricing for the new charging ports here on campus.

“In the Red Hawk Deck, you would pay for the time you’re here,” Scull said. “The electric charging stations have its own charge, you would have an account with the company and, if I’m correct, it’s Charge Point.”

According to the facility news update letter, the cost of charging a vehicle is \$0.25 per hour and vehicles should only be charged in an EV space for up to four consecutive hours.

If your vehicle remains charging longer than four hours, the cost of charging will increase to \$2 per hour.

Emily Smith, a current senior working at parking services, mentioned how the process of obtaining the new charging ports was a tedious one.

“One of my bosses, Ben Cece [an assistant director of fleet services], he worked really hard to get these charging stations,” Smith said. “It took him at least a year because he had to do a 100 [or so] page essay on why they needed [charging stations].”

Junior television and digital media major Steven Vasquez believes it is important for Montclair State to deliver more environmentally friendly ser-



An electric car is parked in the spot reserved for these cars to also use the chargers. Carly Henriquez | The Montclarion

vices on campus.

“I think it’s great. You have more options for electric cars. If I had an electric car, I would love to park and be able to charge my car at the same time,” Vasquez said. “It saves me more money on my own electric bill.”

Scull mentions some of the further benefits of having charging stations on campus.

“All funds go to Montclair State University. The charge station company always has their own charges to it, I imagine it’s God knows how many cents,” Scull said. “[Either way] the funds from any amount that a person pays for charging their car there goes to Montclair State University, which pays for that electricity amount.”

Scull continued to talk about the moving vehicles being more green.

“It’s more of a green functionality to it,” Scull said. “Individuals are moving toward more electric vehicles, including this campus [since it’s] trying to be more green.”

FEATURE



Daniela Vega, a 22-year-old Montclair State student, holds an LGBTQ flag in her hands as she poses for a photo on Monday, Feb. 18.

Chanila German | The Montclarion

#GirlsWhoLikeGirls: Montclair State Student Reveals the Struggles of the LGBTQ+ Community in Peru

Chanila German
Staff Writer

When 17-year-old Daniela Vega decided to uproot her life in Peru and move to the United States, she did it for three reasons. First, college was an unlikely possibility for her since she lacked financial support in her native country. Second, she believed an American degree could open doors for her both domestically and internationally. Third, the idea of being allowed to love who she wanted and be herself intrigued her.

Vega, now a 22-year-old Montclair State University student, discovered she liked girls while attending a private Catholic school in Lima, Peru. Her school, according to Vega, was conservative and tried to “keep the heteronormativity” among students. Vega explained how her only formal introduction to same-sex relationships was through media, which portrayed more gay men than lesbians.

It was through her first experiences with cable television that 11-year-old Vega was exposed to the idea of being able to love women.

“[My mom] let me watch whatever I wanted, and I remember I watched a reality show called ‘A Shot at Love with Tila Tequila,’ which is similar to ‘The Bachelor’ or ‘[The] Bachelorette,’” Vega said. “It was a dating reality show and [the girl] would date boys and girls. So that show opened

my eyes.”

The show helped Vega realize it was possible for women to be attracted to other women. She said it taught her that men were not the only ones who had the freedom to choose who they wanted to love.

“I was young, but still capable of understanding that women can be with anybody they want, not only men,” Vega said. “I was told before that men have freedom. Men can have sex and enjoy it, and they can go out and be free. But women have to be virgins and stay virgins

until marriage.”

To date, civil unions and same-sex marriage are not legally allowed in Peru. According to the most recent report by the U.S. Department of State, 85 percent of Peruvians identified their religion as Catholic. Vega believes religion was part of the reason the LGBTQ+ community was not able to gain proper recognition in Peru.

“People are so into religion that it is hard for them to understand that being gay is not a problem,” Vega said. “They

base all their beliefs on what the church, God or ‘The Bible’ tells them. And a lot of people say that being gay is a sin because it is in the Bible, and it is really not.”

Flavia Arana Cisneros and Esteban Arias, both political science majors in Peru and friends of Vega, agreed the country is not ready to legalize same-sex marriage yet.

“It’s dangerous being part of the LGBTQ+ community in Peru,” Cisneros said. “They don’t respect you, from looking at you badly, [to] hitting you or

forbidding you to enter certain spaces. It is obvious that there is a lot of discrimination here.”

However, Arias said that he never saw any discrimination with his own eyes but heard stories about it. A student at Universidad Antonio Ruiz de Montoya, Arias explained that he likes to think of the people within the LGBTQ+ community as “individuals, like we do with non-LGBTQ+ people” to make “them feel included and not especially different.”

“I study political science and we try to impose public policies that consider them,” Arias said. “I also like to think about them as individuals that have the terrible problem of being ignored by the state, and we need to fight against that, of course.”

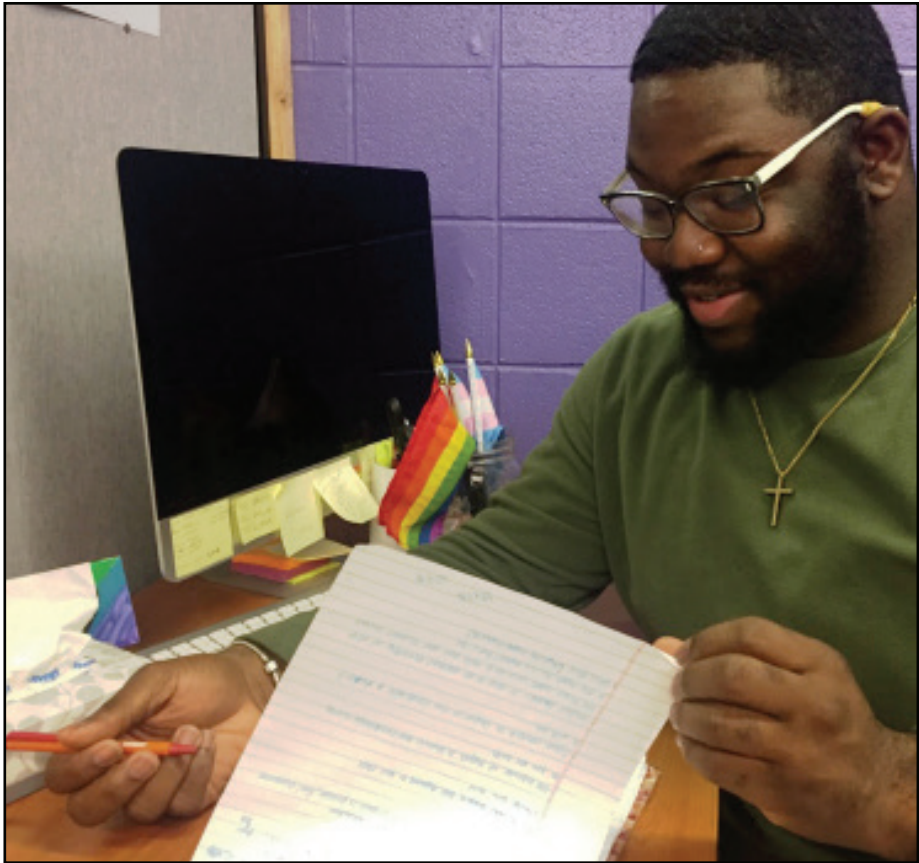
According to Peru’s constitution, all citizens have the right to be treated equally under the law. “No person shall be discriminated on the basis of origin, race, gender, language, religion, opinion, economic situation or any other reason,” it said.

While sexual orientation and gender identity are not specifically mentioned, legislation was passed in 2012 to prevent hate crimes against the LGBTQ+ community. However, according to a study conducted by the Center for the Promotion and Defense of Sexual and Reproductive Rights (PROMSEX), hate crimes have only gotten worse.

A graduate coordinator for the Multicultural Center at Montclair

“It’s dangerous being part of the LGBTQ+ community in Peru. They don’t respect you, from looking at you badly, [to] hitting you or forbidding you to enter certain spaces. It is obvious that there is a lot of discrimination here.”

- Flavia Arana Cisneros



Charles Simonson, a graduate coordinator for the Multicultural Center at Montclair State, helps to create programs and events for the LGBTQ Center.

Chanila German | *The Montclarion*



Buttons from the LGBTQ Center at Montclair State are grouped together for students. One of the pins states, “I love someone who is a lesbian,” and another says, “I love someone who is nonbinary.”

Chanila German | *The Montclarion*

State, Charles Simonson, explained that the LGBTQ+ community faces a lot of discrimination and hate crimes.

“I do think that we face a lot of bashing, especially if you are not passing as a cis-gender or masculine person,” Simonson said. “If you are someone that identifies as a woman, and you are not passing as a feminine woman, then you are more accessible to become a target to people. We do live in a world [where there are] hateful people that don’t understand us or who we are. They take that and they act upon it, so we do face a lot of discrimination, bashing and even physical [violence].”

Vega explained that she enjoys living in the United States because she can wear

“I am ready to kind of deal with it and be like, ‘Yes, I am gay, I’m Peruvian, I’m living in Lima, and I am going to be myself.’”

- Daniela Vega

her “loose jeans and flannel shirts” and not be stared down or called a “dyke” like in Peru. Still, she admitted she loves her country and hopes to live there again regardless of whether or not same-sex marriage becomes legalized.

“I am ready to kind of deal with it and be like, ‘Yes, I am gay, I’m Peruvian, I’m living in Lima, and I am going to be myself,’” Vega said. “‘I am going to hold my girlfriend’s hand, and I don’t care what you tell me or what you do to me,’ as long as they don’t hurt me.”



Vega stands beside her best friend Flavia Arana Cisneros in their old Catholic school in December 2012.

Photo courtesy of Daniela Vega

#FOCUS

IMMIGRATION



The Tint Journal Team is entirely comprised of volunteers, including (from left to right) Valeria Garcia Origel, Rongqian Ma, Lisa Schantl and Kenny Guay.

Photo courtesy of Lisa Schantl

Tint Journal Illuminates the Shades of Language

Alexa Spear
Feature Editor

Lisa Schantl traveled to a foreign land in 2017, leaving her hometown to embark on a new adventure that would bring her to Montclair State University.

As an English as a Second Language (ESL) student, Schantl was passionate about immersing herself in a new culture and seeing through others' perspectives. As founder and editor-in-chief of Tint Journal, she is now expanding that opportunity to her readers.

Schantl was an exchange student awarded the Montclair-Graz Sister Cities Scholarship, which offers two students from Graz, Austria the chance to attend Montclair State each year. During her time in the US, Schantl took advantage of access to creative writing classes and grew more confident in her grasp of the English language.

As a non-native English writer, Schantl realized that her approach to language enabled her to bring new insights to the

writing process. Schantl eventually became a staff writer for The Montclarion, using her unique perspective as a voice for the campus community. In previous articles, she offered a guide on vacationing in Europe as well as a look into Graz International Summer School, cleverly termed "a summer school in a castle."

Many of her experiences were encouraging and contributed to her mastery of the English language. However, she did recall a situation in which a professor assumed her work would contain grammatical and spelling issues, choosing to lower a grade on an assignment without even checking.

After being confronted, the professor ultimately apologized. Schantl's work was well-written and free of mistakes. The encounter stuck with Schantl and inspired her to work toward changing the assumptions of the ESL community.

"This instance made me aware of the prejudices that non-native speakers and writers have to face and sparked the first ideas to do something against that," Schantl said.

In the summer following Schantl's year at Montclair State, she would go on to participate in the LARB/USC Publishing Workshop in Los Angeles. In a moment of spontaneity, she decided to share her dream of an ESL literary journal.

"I remember how my heartbeat fastened when several participants indicated their trust in my project and offered their support," Schantl said.

Through hard work and careful planning, Schantl and a team of her peers were beginning to see the journal take shape. Schantl explained the sense of empowerment she felt when she started receiving writing submissions.

"When the first emails started hitting my mailbox, I felt that this thing was becoming real," Schantl said. "My vision had turned into a mission, and then into an actual project."

The name of the journal, Tint, was drawn from the belief that everyone brings a new light to the written word.

Boris Dralyuk, executive editor of the Los Angeles Review of Book as well as a translator and author, shared his understanding of the phrase.

"The writing in these pages testifies to the fact that foreignness is not a taint, but a tint, without which our world would be hopelessly dull," Dralyuk said.

Tint Journal's mission statement is to "shine a light on the ways that authors all over the globe can contribute to what we know as literature in English." Each issue contains entries from writers all over the world. Although their "mother tongues" are diverse, the desire to express themselves through literature is a shared understanding which traverses any perceived language barriers.

From short fiction to nonfiction and poetry, readers can find a variety of writing to engage with. All of the submissions come from non-native English speakers and writers who translate their own work, maintaining the integrity of their artistic intentions through the process of self-translation.

Janis Hubschman, a writer and English professor at Montclair State, praises Tint Journal for its goal of "bridging borders" across the world.

"This journal has a compelling mission, one that I haven't seen before in a literary magazine," Hubschman said. "By opening a space for ESL writers' creative voices, Tint Journal will expose readers to a rich, culturally diverse world."

Tint Journal releases new work twice a year and is entirely volunteer-run. On top of text-based submissions, authors also produce an auditory reading of their work, all of which is available for free on their website.

Valeria Garcia Origel, a contributor and editor who works on Tint's marketing and communications, shared her motivation for creative writing.

"It's this unruly urge to transform my feelings, especially the ones killing me, into a narrative, a hidden fiction and to ease my soul," Garcia Origel said. "And maybe, deep down, be heard in the



Photo courtesy of Lisa Schantl

Valeria García Origel speaks Spanish, French and English. Her piece, titled "Third Drawer," is available on the Tint Journal website.

things that I find hardest to say."

Schantl believes that Tint Journal can make a difference in the world of English literature as well as in the ways people interact with each other.

"I personally hope that our journal will open the eyes of native speakers and non-native speakers alike and make them aware that not only natives can be in full command of their language," Schantl said. "Non-native speakers substantially contribute to the understanding of language as a tool for communication, and they shape and change language, and enrich it with their own colorful backgrounds."

To support Tint Journal, readers can visit their website tintjournal.com as well as their social media sites @tintjournal on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Donations can be made on Patreon or Ko-fi, which will help support Tint's ongoing mission of diversity and inclusivity. Their next call for submissions will open this month and interested writers can subscribe to their weekly newsletter to stay updated.



Photo courtesy of Lisa Schantl

As the founder of Tint Journal, Lisa Schantl hopes to create new understandings of language between writers and readers across the globe.



Samantha Soto (left) and her mother, Rosa Soto (right), talk about how sex education is important.

Ari Lopez Wei | *The Montclarion*

Silent Sex-Ed in the Latino Community

Fiorella Medina
Chief Copy Editor

Many Latino parents decide not to give the sex education talk because they are scared they will encourage their kids to have sex, get pregnant and corrupt their religious beliefs, which state they should stay abstinent until marriage.

However, without giving sex-ed to their children, they are depriving them of important information regarding STDs, different changes their body goes through during puberty, how to practice safe sex and what consent is.

According to Pew Research, 77 percent of Latinos are Christians. A majority of them may also put their children in religious private schools where the sex education is focused on abstinence. There is no talk of what changes their body is going through or what sex actually is.

Karla Cortez, a junior business major with a concentration in business analytics, grew up in her Mexican household with no information on sex-ed. Her parents never had a sex talk of their own, and she thought it would make them feel awkward.

“[My parents] never told me because they thought I would learn,” Cortez said. “I learned from TV, which made me sad because it didn’t sound real. I also learned from friends, and in sixth grade everyone was having sex.”

Cortez was confused that her classmates in the sixth grade were having sex when she didn’t even get her period. She remembered getting a brief period talk from her two older sisters, but she only knew about pads and never understood how a tampon worked.

She went to Catholic school all her life and her only form of sex-ed from her school was take a shower, put deodorant on and save sex for marriage. Although Cortez was able to cope, she feels that her family members were greatly affect-

ed by not receiving a sex talk.

“My family is very religious. Growing up, my cousin got knocked up and it kept happening in my family,” Cortez said. “Four of my cousins had a teen pregnancy so I feel like my parents never told me to save sex for marriage because it just kept happening.”

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, in 2017 the birthrates for Hispanic teens and non-Hispanic black teens were more than two times higher than the rate for non-Hispanic white teens.

Cortez was glad her friends would also educate her with either their own sex talks from their parents or their own experiences.

“I learned there’s an emotional part people don’t talk about, but it’s there,” Cortez said. “You have to figure yourself out first, and don’t have sex just to have sex.”

She hopes to give her 7-year-old sister sex education as soon as possible.

Samantha Soto, a junior marketing major, had a different experience with

her Peruvian household teaching her about sex ed. The youngest she remembers having her mother talk to her about puberty and sex was at 7 years old.

“My mom would give me the sex talk but also wanted me to wait until I was a bit older and not rush into it,” Soto said. “She’d say, ‘Be sure who you’re going to be with you don’t have to wait ‘til marriage because by the time you get to marriage you’re stuck with whatever you got.’”

When Soto’s sister came from Peru to America at 8 years old, her mother’s puberty and sex talk started to get more serious.

“When my sister was 8, she lived in Peru with her grandparents and she didn’t know about anything, then she came here,” Soto said. “My mother taught her about everything about what boys have, body parts. She’d say what boys want, what they would do to themselves, what they want from women and she would say, ‘Okay, you know this, but you might want it, too because hormones are there and you

get these feelings, but you have to learn how to control them and be safe.’”

Soto’s mother, Rosa Soto, didn’t want her daughters to go through what she went through as a young teenager.

“I had to learn from my friends,” Rosa Soto said. “My sister thought she was pregnant with a kiss and got her period super young, I didn’t want my daughters to be as afraid or unprepared as she was.”

Samantha Soto began sex ed in seventh grade, but she already knew more than what they taught her in school. All her friends were in complete shock and being immature about it. However, Soto was prepared with this knowledge being repeated to her and was happy that her other classmates were finally learning.

“A lot of them who I knew had religious families and who were too shy to talk about sex education with their children, thinking it might push them towards having sex in the future,” Soto said. “They’re the ones who actually ended up having kids at a very early age.”

Justin Marquez, a junior biology major, was raised Christian and in a Puerto Rican and Costa Rican household. He was given the sex talk accompanied with biblical aspects of love and told to wait for marriage with verses from the Bible.

“My mom was the one who said, ‘Although you should wait for marriage, if you do it at least do it with someone you love and only if they want it, too,’” Marquez said.

Marquez also received sex ed in middle school and high school but believes that not everything about sex is taught there.

“It is an awkward conversation to have with your children, but I don’t think sex education at school covers it all and tells the complete truth,” Marquez said. “I think it’s important to talk to your children about it.”



Karla Cortez reads a pamphlet on how to have safer sex in the Health Drop-in Center at Montclair State University.

Fiorella Medina | *The Montclarion*



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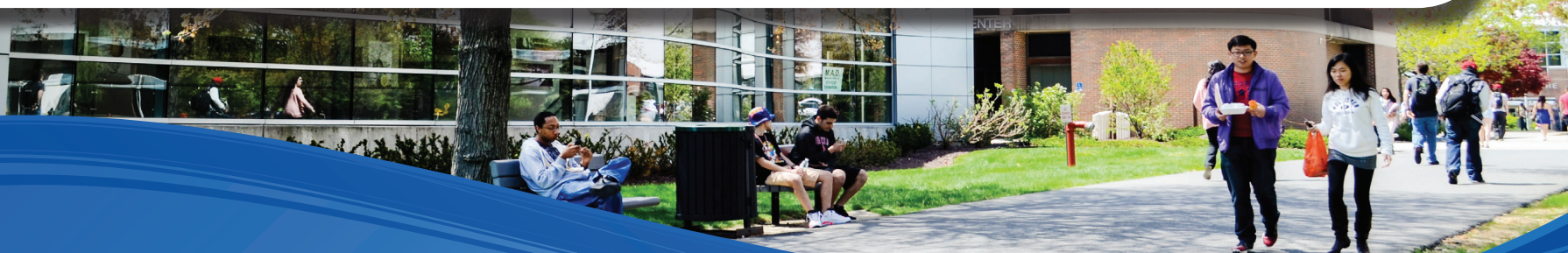


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Holi 2019 is a Carnival of Colors



#FOCUS

IMMIGRATION

The South Asian Student Association will hold their third annual Holi celebration on April 13 at noon in Lot 45.

Photo courtesy of Chandni Patel

Purnasree Saha
Contributing Writer

In different areas of India and Nepal, there are Hindus who celebrate the festival Holi on the day after the full moon in early March, which is known as Phalguna or Purnima. It is celebrated on different dates every year in March.

Holi represents the festival of colors and happiness and signifies good over evil. The main purpose of the Holi festival is to welcome the beginning of spring, share compassion with others and to honor the Hindu god, Vishnu.

The South Asian Student Association (SASA) at Montclair State University plans to hold their third annual Holi celebration on Saturday, April 13 in Lot

45 starting at noon. The organization hopes to welcome the spring season and celebrate love and life by throwing colors in the air and enjoying cultural food, performances and other entertainment. Students with different religions and cultures on campus are welcome to attend and experience the traditional celebration of spring.

Khushbu Rana, a junior computer science major, encourages students of all backgrounds to participate in the event.

“This is a real opportunity for students to make new friends and the main purpose of this festival is for Americans to mix with the Indian colors and to have great fun,” Rana said. “This festival gives them true happiness and unforgettable memories.”

In India, Holi is celebrated over two days. The first day is known as Chhoti

Holi or Holika Dahan and the next day is Dhuleti. During Holika Dahan, there is a bonfire that is lit, which burns away all bad and evil. There is also a puja, or prayer ritual, that is celebrated during the bonfire.

The next day is known to be the festival of colors, which involves a lot of entertainment throughout the community by throwing gulal powder, which comes in a variety of colors.

Undeclared freshman Juhi Patel emphasized the importance of celebrating the festival on campus.

“It’s a good way to bring diversity of the culture through the festival of colors,” Patel said.

The color of each powder has a different symbolic meaning. For example, the blue powder represents the god Krishna. The green one symbolizes rebirth,

the red is marriage and the yellow one is spirituality and devotion.

This year Holi began on March 20 and then ended on March 21. Rangwali Holi was celebrated on March 21, where people were throwing colored powder at others, spraying water guns and then dancing on the streets. While throwing powder at others and dancing, people can feel new life in their surroundings with a freshness in flora and fauna.

Depending on the region in India, Holi is celebrated differently. In the U.S., there are some college campuses and Hindu temples that celebrate Holi once a year in March or April.

Jaynil Patel, a freshman majoring in international business, looks forward to participating in the Holi celebration.

“It is the time to reach out with colors of joy and happiness,” Patel said.



Students throw bright colored powders into the air symbolizing the beginning of spring, sharing compassion with others and honoring the Hindu god Vishnu.

Photo courtesy of Chandni Patel



SASA’s former president Maithili Patel (left) and Megha Guglani (right) take a selfie showing the colorful stains of gulal powder thrown during the celebration of Holi in 2018.

Photo courtesy of Chandni Patel



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Gerardo Franco (left) and Genedi Muniz (right) converse in American Sign Language while they walk to class.

Gabrielle Igartua | The Montclarion

Genedi Muniz Speaks About Her Love for Language and Forms of Expression

Gabrielle Igartua
Contributing Writer

Strumming dexterous fingers along the strings of her acoustic guitar, Genedi Muniz is the epitome of ease. Leaves rustling from a passing breeze set the ambience for the song she plays: A rendition of “Shallow” by Lady Gaga.

Although she keeps her appearance lowkey by wearing a Montclair State hoodie and jeans, she is far from simple. Muniz is a linguistics major at Montclair State University and is fascinated by the many ways people communicate with one another.

Muniz finds all forms of expression interesting. She is a polyglot who speaks five languages – English, Spanish, Portuguese, Mandarin and American Sign Language (ASL) – and finds interest in the spoken and written word. She also finds other artistic forms of expression, such as art and music, very compelling. She is self-taught in the guitar and is currently teaching herself how to play the violin and penny flute.

Her motto – actions speak louder than words – holds especially true for her passion in ASL. She admits growing up she was very shy and uncomfortable verbalizing her thoughts.

“My first encounter with ASL was at the age of 11 when I had to learn the alphabet for class,” Muniz said. “It just struck a chord with me, since it shared the aspect of language I mainly pay attention to.”

That first experience reaffirmed for her that a language doesn’t have to be strictly verbal to be understood or accepted. ASL has become her favorite form of communication for its focus on body language and the elaborate meanings

behind signs. She explained this over lunch, where she revealed another talent of hers: Eating.

A renowned foodie, Muniz finds delight in food as a form of expression. She refuses to name one food as her favorite. She has found each food has a unique quality to it that relates back to a culture. However, she has a close affinity toward cheese, perhaps because this food is diverse and transcends cultural boundaries, much like herself.

Her love for food is closely related to her passion in understanding other cultures. It shows in the way she finds pleasure in trying new things. This curiosity is what lead Muniz to learning more about Deaf culture.

It was not until transferring to Montclair State that she officially fell in love with learning ASL and signing. Montclair State is one of the few schools in New Jersey that offers an ASL minor and the ASL/English Interpreting concentration.

She not only gives credit to Montclair State for fostering her passion for language and ASL but also for inspiring her interest in its application within technology. Recently, the field of computational linguistics was made into a master program and has made her consider graduate school.

“I’d hope to do linguistic research and analysis for a tech company,” Muniz said. “I see myself working within the fields of machine learning and translation technology, since I enjoy those areas the most.”

Nonetheless, she is keeping her options open for now.

Although Montclair State seems to be living up to its promise that “It’s all here,” there might be something it is missing. One thing that concerns Muniz is the lack of resources outside of the

classroom available to students looking to maintain acquisition and practice of ASL year-round.

Even though professors are a big resource in providing students with external resources and events to attend within the Deaf community, she feels more can be done.

“An ASL club wasn’t in place when I matriculated, but I think that would be a step in the right direction for students looking to be actively involved beyond just taking ASL classes,” Muniz said.

Muniz and a few other linguistic students have joined together to re-establish the ASL club at Montclair State. She is very excited about the potential of reforming the ASL club, but not much can be said about it yet. It has not been chartered, but they hope to rectify the situation soon.

Although it was a bit discouraging to hear that others have attempted and

failed to re-establish the club in the past, she is optimistic that things will work out this time around.

“Hopefully this one will have the results we’ve been waiting for,” Muniz said.

A good amount of students have already showed interest. She is hoping the club will attract members of the Deaf community at Montclair State to socialize and sign with learners of ASL.

Muniz’s goal is to have her and her colleagues leave a successful legacy behind by the time they graduate. She hopes to bring the hearing and Deaf communities on campus closer together through awareness to encourage other students to maintain that community.

However, her aspirations go beyond her time at Montclair State. Muniz plans to aid in bridging the gap between ASL and technology. This is a challenge she is looking forward to taking on.



Genedi is in her element as she plays her acoustic guitar in Brookdale Park.

Gabrielle Igartua | The Montclarion



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Montclair State Students Can Make a Difference at Upcoming Relay for Life



Relay for Life participants pose in front of a "Hope" sign.

Photo courtesy of Sarah Greulich

Jen Losos
Assistant Copy Editor

Montclair State University students come together to raise money for cancer awareness and beat their own goal by holding Relay for Life, a 12-hour outdoor event hosted every year in the Student Center Quad.

Relay for Life is hosted globally each year in order to raise money for cancer research. The event is typically held outside, where participants are grouped into teams and walk around a track for a number of hours to stand up to cancer and show their support for survivors. Montclair State hosts its own Relay for Life, this year's event being held on April 26 from 1 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Montclair State hosts a relay that is different from others. Many community relays are overnight experiences, but Montclair State holds their Relay for Life during the day, making this event only 12 hours. Last year, Relay for Life surpassed its goal of \$55,000 by raising \$67,000, making Montclair State one of the top 10 rising colleges in the northeast for Relay for Life.

Many Montclair State clubs and organizations participate in Relay for Life as their own teams, but the Montclair State Relay for Life is a community event that all can participate in.

Tristyn Rivera, a senior majoring in psychology and child advocacy as well as the director of Montclair State Relay for Life, wants people to know this is not just a campus event.

"[Montclair State Relay for Life] does not have as many survivors as other relays because people see it as a campus relay only so they are a little wary of com-



Caregivers walk around the Student Center Quad.

Photo courtesy of Dana Hirschfeld

ing to our relay," Rivera said. "[Relay for Life] is open to all students and the community as well. Professors, families and everyone can come."

At Relay for Life this year, participants can expect there to be many activities and fun events to do during the day. This year, there will be a DJ all day, performances, a henna booth and a bouncy house, along with many other mini-game events hosted by different organizations, such as RecBoard's reckless behavior games and dodgeball hosted by Tri Sigma.

Caitlin Ellis-Foster, a sophomore ath-

letic training major, shared why she does relay and why she thinks people should join Montclair State's Relay for Life.

"It's an amazing way to bring the community together to raise money and awareness for such a great cause. It's amazing when everyone comes together," Ellis-Foster said. "There are tons of things happening all day, and it's so much fun."

At Relay for Life, there are many different rituals done in support of those affected by cancer, such as the survivor lap and the luminaria ceremony.

"The luminaria ceremony is my favorite part. It's very informative and eye opening," Ellis-Foster said. "You hear people's stories and how cancer has affected them. It's a very beautiful ceremony."

Throughout relay, participants are encouraged to donate a decorated luminaria in order to show support for someone they know who is either battling cancer, lost their battle to cancer or has survived cancer. The luminaria ceremony is one of the very last rituals of the night, where survivors share their stories among the candlelit bags.

According to its organizers, Montclair State's Relay for Life is a way to bring the community together and to show what the school truly represents as a whole.

"The Montclair State relay represents hope," Rivera said. "It shows people that cancer affects everyone. It represents that even a small community can raise the funds to help everyone."

This year, the goal for Montclair State's relay is \$65,000. To sign up, participants can go on relayforlife.org and search for Montclair State's relay. Participants can join a team or create their own.

Relay for Life is a way to get involved on campus and show support for those who are battling or have battled cancer. Catherine Lowe, a sophomore English major, participated in Relay for Life last year and is participating again this year.

"I think people should choose Montclair State's relay to participate in when deciding to join a Relay for Life," Lowe said. "It supports an important cause and brings people together."

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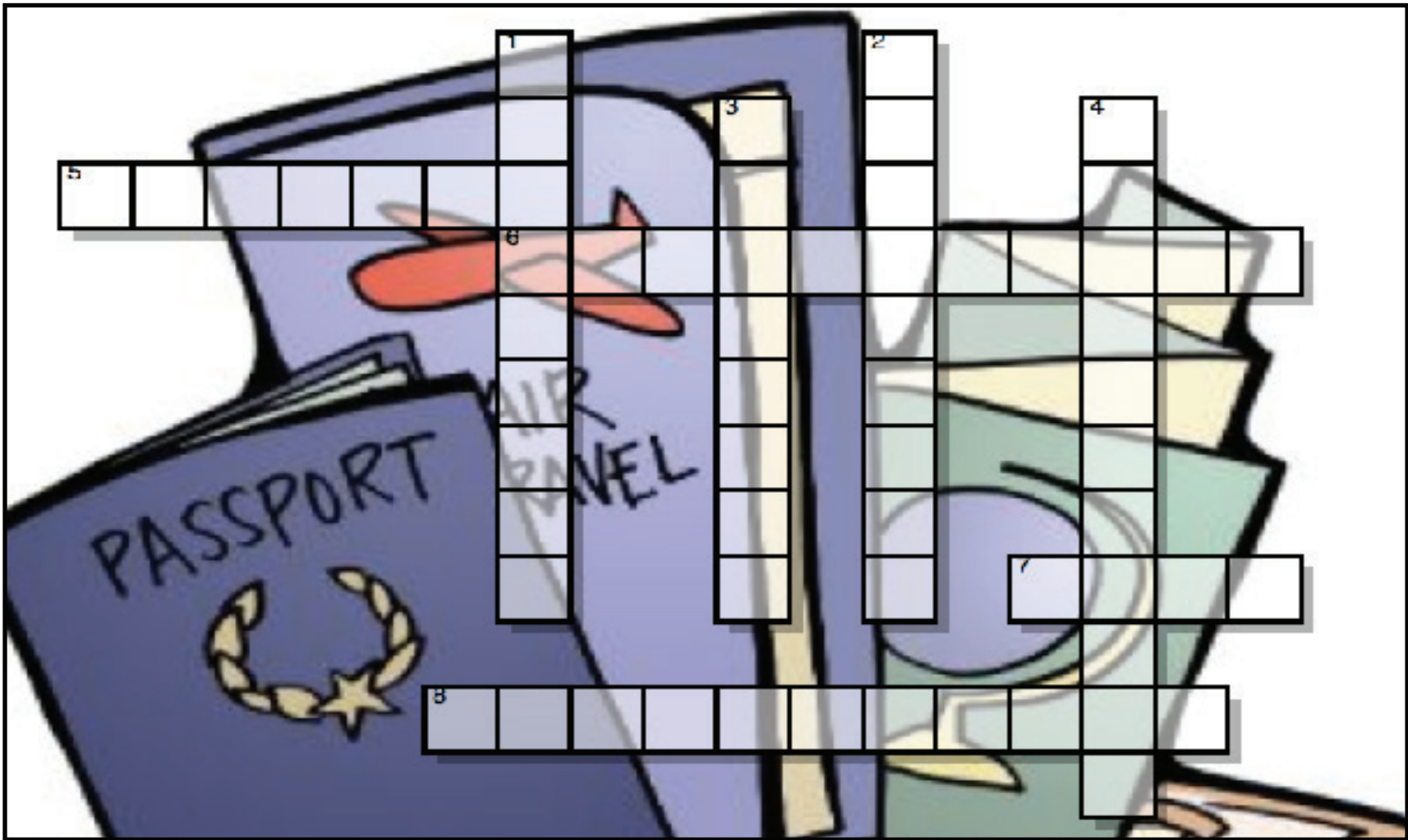
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Across

5. The song “Journey On” from this musical is about people heading to America in search of a better life

6. This New York locale was once a prominent point for immigration

7. This official permission temporarily allows someone to stay in a foreign country

8. The N-___ form is the application people fill out to apply for citizenship (Hint: Spell out the number)

Down

1. This allows someone from outside the U.S. to live and work within the U.S.

2. To move to a new country

3. To leave one’s own country

4. A _____ is someone who is a citizen of the U.S. and another country

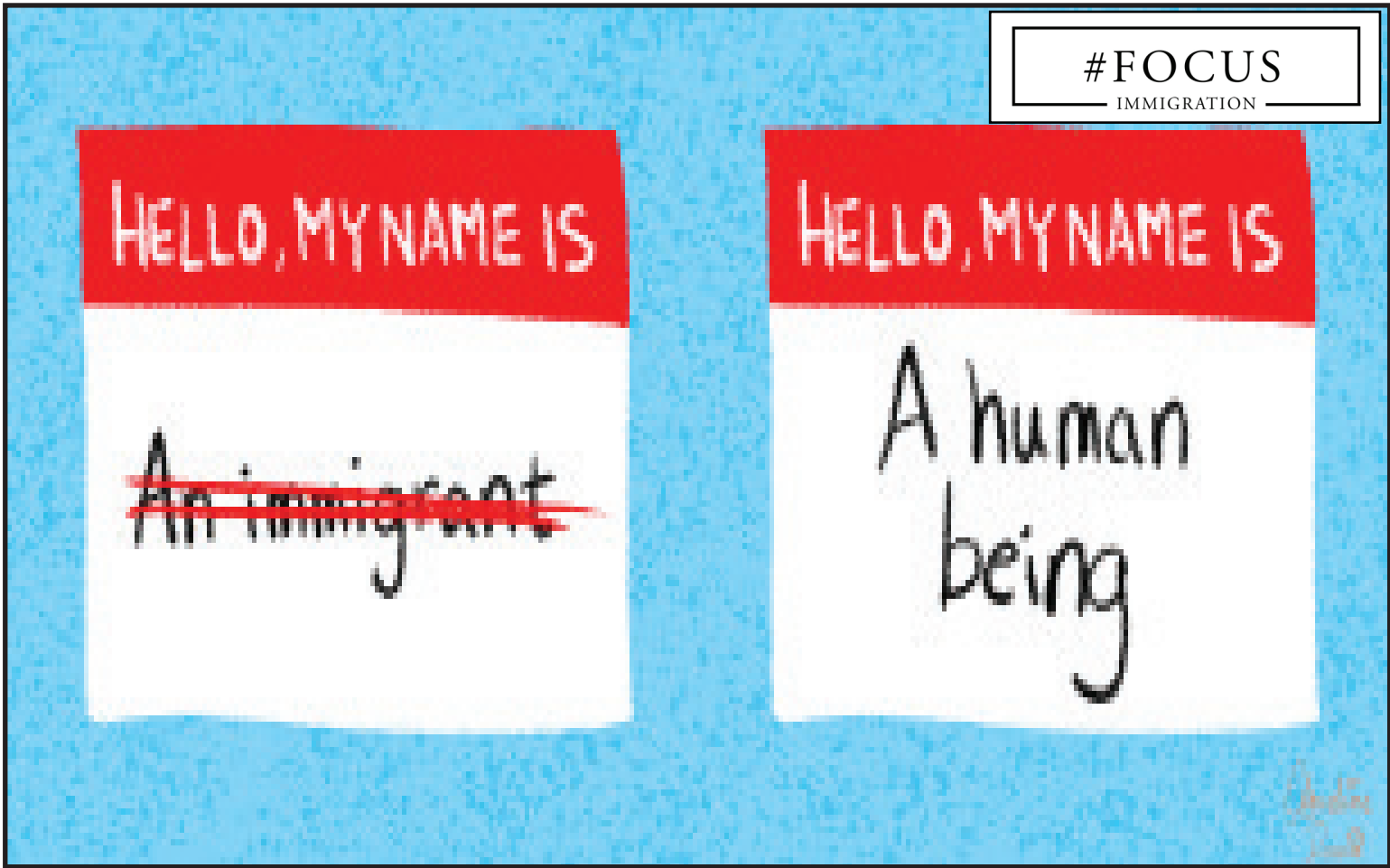
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*For answers to the puzzles, please check
The Montclarion Facebook page every Thursday.*



Claudine David | The Montclarion

Taking the Focus Off the Immigration Stigma

For far too long, people around the globe have used the word immigrant as a way to make people of different races, religions and cultures feel inferior to the rest of society. This ongoing prejudice has caused many people to leave their home countries in search of acceptance.

The country that people would turn to for a safe place to live, where they would have the freedom to express themselves however they please, has been the United States, the land of opportunity. Lately, in this nation that was built on the beliefs of “freedom and justice for all,” many people have started to replace the word “all” with “some.”

Just like the U.S., Montclair State University is

very diverse in culture with students, faculty and staff coming from different backgrounds and customs, ready to share them with the rest of the campus community. Unfortunately, with all of the anti-immigrant rhetoric that has taken the country by storm, students are becoming more reluctant to embrace their heritage in fear of harassment and judgment from their peers.

Mass hysteria has been spreading from Washington D.C. regarding immigration, causing many people, including college students, to forget about the cultural beauty of it. This beauty is constantly overshadowed by controversy and political agendas that continue to be an energy source to spread hate.

What students and others

need to remember is that immigration does not have to solely revolve around politics, and that immigrants, just like everyone else, are human beings. They have so many cultural stories about their lives that are never told because of hard news that is continuously pouring in straight from the White House or the U.S.-Mexico border.

While these stories are important for the public to be informed about, there are others that can send a more powerful message to the world that immigrants have worked hard to get to where they are now and to inspire others they could one day be successful, too.

Washington D.C. has drastically changed the narrative for immigration, but many students at Montclair State

can’t help but remember the classic Ellis Island stories they were told in elementary school or even by family members, where immigrants would sail across the world and cheer when they saw the Statue of Liberty as they pulled into the harbor. These were the stories that gave immigrants hope.

Without immigrants, the U.S. wouldn’t be the cultural melting pot we all know and love today. There are many positive things that immigrants have brought to this country that allow others to embrace it as well. They have taught us about new languages, dances, food and other fascinating traditions that Americans have become obsessed with and have even put their own personal touches on.

Social media has been used as a way for others to spread

their anti-immigrant rhetoric, but with the help of a larger community, those messages of hate can be overshadowed by those of love, inspiration and unity.

The School of Communication and Media and The Montclarion encourage students, faculty and other members of the Montclair State community to share their stories using the #MyImmigrantStoryIs and #FocusImmigration hashtags and to help put an inspirational, lighthearted spin on a controversial topic. The more people can get involved, the better chance that the word immigrant can once again be something for many people to be proud of.

All of us have our own ties to immigration; they’re just waiting to be found.

CAMPUS VOICES:

What is your
your
immigrant
story?

By Carly Henriquez



“My immigration story is that my parents came from Punjab. My dad was born in Piscalá, and my mom was born from a Punjab area. They had to get forms to come into New Jersey and after they got the forms they were citizens of here, and they have the green card for India so they can travel back and forth.”

- Nimar Sekhon
Political Science
Freshman



“My mother came from the Dominican Republic when she was 13 and her entire family came here except for my grandfather. She was working to get an apartment and they all moved in with her. We had a lot of family in New York and wanted a better life and live the American dream.”

- Guillermo Estrada
Exercise Science
Freshman



“My dad, he wasn’t born in America. He was born in Antigua and he moved to America when he was about 20 years old. From childhood until now, my father had always instilled [in] me to work hard and have a good work ethic and really go for your dreams as much as you can. I’ll be graduating in May with my Bachelors of Science. I really work hard for myself but also for him since he didn’t go to college. It goes out to him.”

- Miriam Roberts
Marketing
Senior



“I don’t [have an immigration story] but I think [immigrants] get treated unfairly since Donald Trump is president now. I think they deserve to stay. They should be welcomed and not discriminated against just because they weren’t born here. They’re not doing any harm, so I don’t understand what’s the big deal.”

- Alyssa Korall
Communication & Media Arts
Junior

#MyImmigrantStoryls

#FOCUS
IMMIGRATION

The Montclarion staff share the stories of their heritage

The First Generation American's Two Worlds



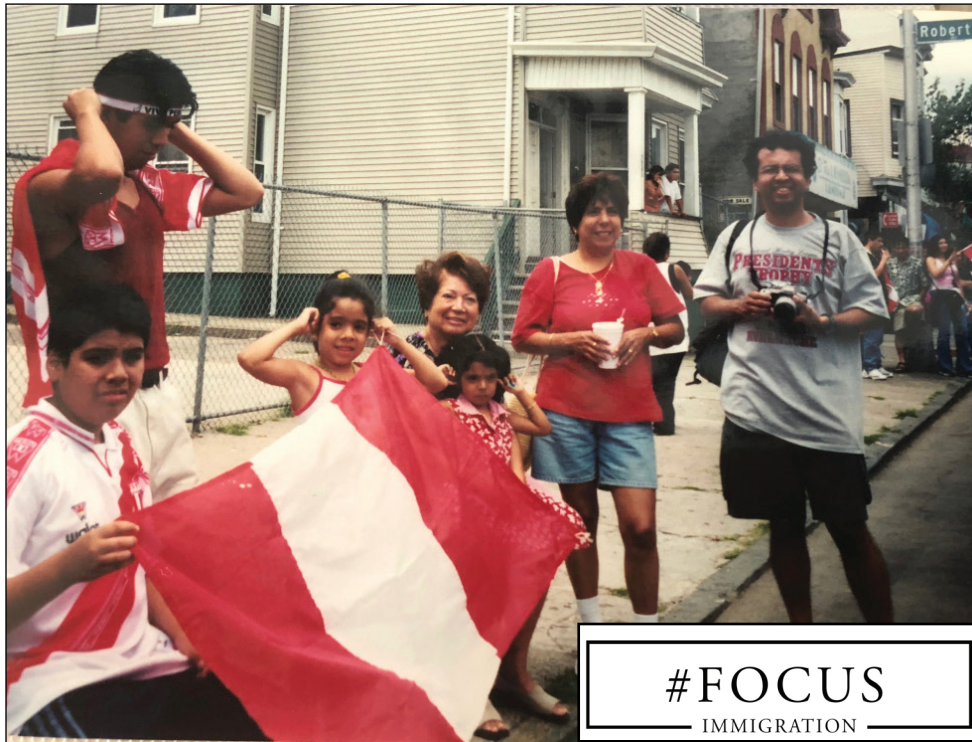
FIORELLA MEDINA
CHIEF COPY EDITOR

A lot of focus is on immigrants, but don't forget the children of these immigrants who also struggle with learning things by themselves and trying to adapt to not one but two cultures.

I am a proud child of immigrant parents. Both of them migrated from Peru. They came to America in order to get married, to start a family and, like most immigrants, to have a better life. They raised my sister and I in a Latino household where they tried to incorporate everything they could teach us about their own roots. However, we were raised in America, and they knew nothing about American culture.

My two worlds collided during my first day of kindergarten when teachers realized English wasn't my first language, so half of the Latino class had to take English as a Second Language (ESL) class. At home, my family could roll their Rs but teachers changed the pronunciation of my name because they couldn't say it. At home, I was eating ethnic food but at school, I was introduced to mac and cheese and chicken nuggets.

I and other Latinos did a kiss-on-the-cheek when greeting the whole room but then I got to middle school social gatherings and realized no one was greeting me with a kiss. I also celebrate the Peruvian Independence Day from



The Medina family celebrates the Peruvian Independence Day on July 28, 1999.

#FOCUS
IMMIGRATION

Photo courtesy of Cecilia Medina

morning to night, but not the Fourth of July like some of my friends did. Then I started to wonder why my classmates were going to slumber parties, but in my house, I had a bed and had no reason to sleep in someone else's house.

Once I started getting interested in hobbies and sports, I couldn't be like my other classmates because I needed my parents' permission. It wasn't possible at the time because my parents were undocumented. But not having documentation did

not stop my parents from giving me and my sister every opportunity we could possibly have.

Education was and still is the most important thing my parents enforce on my sister and me and why they came to this country. There was no question as to whether or not I was going to college – it was mandatory.

There's also "immigration parent guilt" that many first generations face. Our parents come to America and work in whatever job they can get so we can go to college and get

a career – if not, then their migration was for nothing.

While other families who send their kids off to college understand how to fill out FAFSA and get loans, I had no one to help me. The registrar office was tired of seeing me every day during my freshman year in their office pleading for help. I am now a senior about to graduate in May, but when I walk and get my diploma, it will also be my parents getting it because they never received a college education.

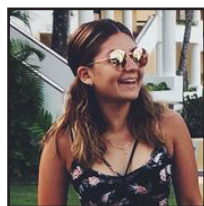
Education isn't the only thing hammered in my brain. Being and staying bilingual is also a priority. I can easily change from Spanish to English in an instant. However, this comes with getting laughed at from my family when I say a word incorrectly or speak Spanglish.

Sometimes it's even difficult when I forget my English words and have to play charades with my friends until they understand what I am trying to say. Funny enough, I work with ESL students now. I understand their struggle trying to think in both languages.

My two worlds still continue today. There's a struggle to find a balance of being American or Peruvian enough. My passport begs to differ, but I'm both.

Fiorella Medina, an English major, is in her first year as chief copy editor for The Montclarion.

Immigration Hardships: The First Generation Latin American



CARLY HENRIQUEZ
ASSISTANT
OPINION EDITOR

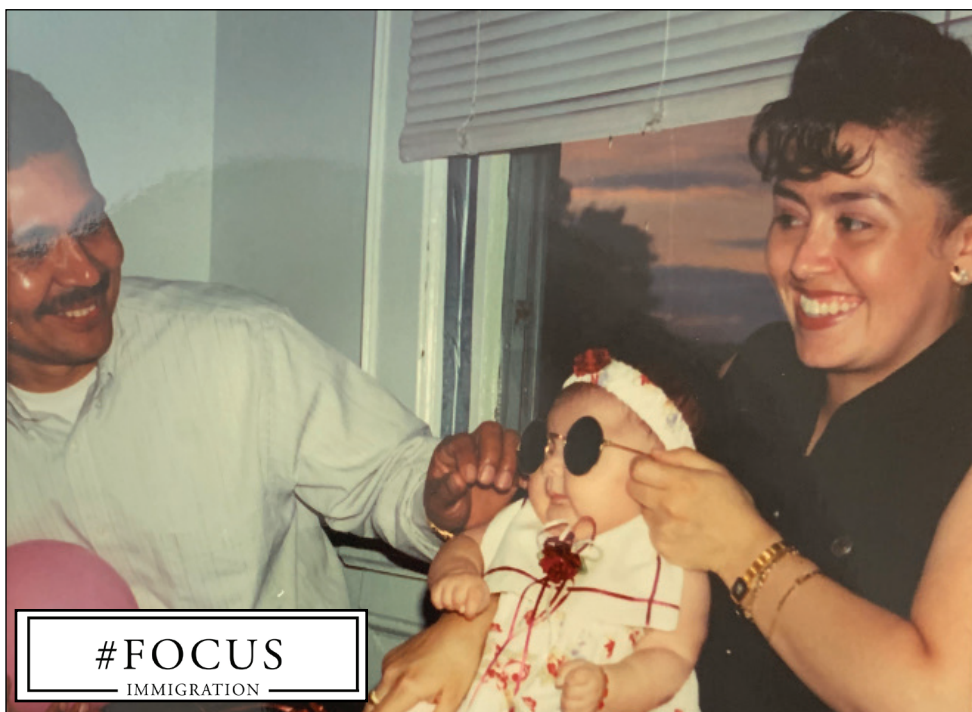
The United States of America thrives on its success from the many backs of immigrants who were forced into migration and the millions of people who wanted to pursue the American dream in hopes for a better future for their forthcoming generations.

My parents, both from El Salvador, knew nothing about the American dream when they were younger, but they were inevitably obliged to pursue it in order to survive.

Between 1980 and 1992, El Salvador was in a devastating civil war that robbed millions of their safety, broke apart cities and financially destroyed the economy of the entire nation.

My father, Benjamin Henriquez, at the age of 24, left the country after reasoning there was no employment that could sustain him and his 11 siblings. Since he was one of the oldest siblings, it was his responsibility to take over the position as the head of the family.

However, at the age of 18, he lost his neighborhood, his house and his miscellaneous items due to the mass raids from the soldiers. During this time he needed to take his family on a 3-hour quest, barefoot into a safe city, spending the little amount of money he saved up only to survive a couple of nights.



Benjamin Henriquez (left) helps Sonia Henriquez (right) put shades on their first-born daughter, Carly Henriquez.

Carly Henriquez | The Montclarion

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IMMIGRATION

The civil war truly left a scarring mark to the civilians of the country. My mother, Sonia Henriquez, grew up having to cautiously walk to school because there were hidden land mines everywhere placed by the soldiers.

She grew up in extreme poverty and primarily in the countryside with several of her farm animals. My mother was always an outcast by society and treated poorly because the attire she wore was always borrowed clothing, and she only had one pair of shoes for the entire school year.

When growing up she, too, realized there was no sustainable future for her since her family was unable to afford to take her to high school, which devastated her. At 21 years old, she decided to migrate over into the U.S. in order to find better living and working conditions to maintain herself.

Typically when people think of immigrants, society associates them with either trespassers or illegals trying to take jobs from hardworking Americans, or people trying to freeloader on the benefits the system has to offer.

Neither of my parents were ever handed a job with any health benefits, salary compensation or any financial stability. They created their own work opportunities and through their own means, they were able to prosper.

I am a proud child of two hardworking immigrants who were placed at an awful disadvantage in life, but they relentlessly pushed for a better outcome for themselves and now they continue to push for a better outcome for their children. My parents are the reason why I constantly strive to do my best academically because they were never given the opportunity to do so themselves.

As a Latina U.S.-born citizen, I will represent my heritage and continue to proudly embrace my roots through my academic work as well. There is a lack of representation of Latin minorities in the journalism and communication-related field, according to an article written by The Atlantic called, "Where Are All the Minority Journalists?"

There continue to be several hundreds of thousands of other Latino stories that resemble my parents' struggles that get swept under the rug both in the media and in society. However, telling my parent's story can inform a larger audience that they are people who only want to survive.

Carly Henriquez a communication and media arts major, is in her first year as opinion editor for The Montclarion.

Multilingualism and the American Dream

A pair that once didn't go hand-in-hand



DOMINIQUE EVANS
MANAGING EDITOR

If one comes from a mixed background or a migrant one that is really unknown to them, it is easy to just deem oneself a genuine – westernized to perfection – American. However, this does not properly pay tribute to those who struggled and left so much behind in the hopes of offering their kin, aka you, a chance at a better life. Something that many give up when they immigrate to the United States is their native tongue.

Like many, I have often felt on the outskirts of any particular cultural group due to a lack of language outside of English. Growing up with an extended family that is several generations deep in bilingualism, not knowing how to speak Spanish has always made me feel inherently less Hispanic and often times illegitimate.

I am often asked the questions “What are you?” and “Where is your family from?” As someone who is multicultural and/or mixed race, this is a loaded question.

Though I remember growing up with my great-uncle Pedro always asking my mother, “Have you taught these kids Spanish yet? Who will I talk to in a few generations?” I was always confused because to my knowledge at the time, my own mother, a mix that includes Puerto Rican and Portuguese, didn’t even speak Spanish or any language other

than English.

It was only later in my life, after conversations with my mother and studying cultural anthropology, that I began to understand that for a long time, bilingualism and the American dream didn’t coincide. This caused many families who immigrated to the U.S. to lose the language of their birthplace in the hopes of adopting a new home, and in turn its language, in order to attain a better life with less resistance.

My nana, maidenly Ilene Perry, is the perfect example of this. Growing up with a parent from Puerto Rico and one that was first generation from Portugal in the ‘40s put her in a position of difference from her peers. Like many born in the states with fresh immigration ties, she was taught English in school. However, she only spoke Spanish and Portuguese at home.

While her trilingualism allowed her to be closer to her roots, it put her at a disadvantage in the country of her own birth. This came to a climax when her father passed away suddenly at the hands of a drunk driver. As a result, she and her younger brother were sent to stay with an American family temporarily.

During this very difficult time in her childhood, her grief was heavily shadowed by her inability to communicate with those who had taken her in. With her lack of fluency in English, she couldn’t even ask for a glass of water.

While being pulled by two cul-

tures and in turn their languages, neither of which being English, she struggled to find footing within her own American experience. As a result of this, to this day she refuses to speak Spanish or Portuguese. When it came to raising her own children, my mother and my aunt Valerie, who I refer to as Titi, the same rules applied.

To my grandmother, not being able to speak English made her displaced in the place of her birth. Her immigrant ties made her have to go the extra mile and work very hard to achieve success.

Fast forward to my mother’s generation, one filled with trips to the hairdresser, dance lessons and Disney vacations. She was raised by a single mother who worked and went to college at night as a means of achieving the American dream to be successful and have a better life. During this time, it was through my mother’s grandmother that she was exposed to the Spanish language and grew up with excellent reception skills.

It is unfortunate to say that the buck stopped before auditory skills in the language were fully developed. Other people in my family, including my grandmother’s younger siblings, took on the challenge of being multilingual. In an America that is more accepting of the differences among its peoples, there is far more room for people to be proud of their heritage and immigrant ties.

Even though I come from a generation in my family that not

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only cannot read a real map but is also not bilingual, it doesn’t stop me from realizing that even that was a sacrifice made by past generations in an attempt to offer me more opportunities and give me the chance to be on an equal playing field with those around me in achieving my own American dream.

Next time you’re on the verge of proclaiming your “American” heritage, do not forget about those who might have stripped themselves of their roots to give you that privilege.



Photo courtesy of Yolanda Evans

After the passing of her father, Ilene Perry refused to speak Spanish or Portuguese.

Dominique Evans, an English major, is in her first year as managing editor for The Montclarion.

The ‘So Called’ All American Girl

Digging deep into family’s history to find connections to immigration



REBECCA SERVISS
OPINION EDITOR

I grew up in what I consider the average American family. My mother is from Long Island, New York, and my dad grew up in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. All of their parents are also natural-born American citizens, and the majority of their parents were, too, except for one.

My ties to the immigrant world were already loose because no one in my immediate family was one. I remember all of the projects I was required to do in school where I would have to write a biographical sketch of a family member who immigrated to the United States. I always struggled to get that first-person perspective.

For me, that person was my great-grandfather Irving Kulberg, who was the last person in my family to immigrate to the United States from Poland in the early 1900s. Unfortunately, I never got to meet him because he passed away in 1976 when my mother was only 8 years old.

I thank Grandpa Irving for two big things that make me who I am today. The first is the fact that he and his family came to the U.S. at what I consider

a good time. In all honesty, it was never a good time to be an Ashkenazi Jewish immigrant in the 20th century, but they left before Adolf Hitler came.

Many people believe that anti-Semitism was made popular through Hitler’s beliefs of racial superiority, but it actually existed long before he came to power. We weren’t welcomed anywhere, just take a look at stories behind many of the holidays we celebrate, thanking God that we’re still alive today.

Taking a look back at history allows people to make connections to the reasons their distant relatives immigrated. I can’t make assumptions about what my family’s life was like in Eastern Europe and their journey to the U.S. through Ellis Island, but after learning the history of Jewish people in America in the early 1900s, life wasn’t much better for them than it was where they came from.

Living and working conditions were terrible. Not just for Jews, but for anyone who immigrated to the U.S. with little to no money. They were living in small apartments with their entire families and working in unsafe and crowded conditions that led to major tragedies, like the Triangle Shirtwaist Fire in 1911, which occurred not long after my family arrived.

If I had to make an assumption for the reason my family, like so many others, decided to come here, it was to start the groundwork so that future generations can live their lives and not have to endure the pain and suffering they did back in Eastern Europe.

My story may seem old and outdated, but it doesn’t lessen the importance of retelling it.

I believe that everyone, if they dig deep enough, can find a connection to the immigrant world. I think that once people establish that connection, they start to empathize with those who today would do anything to be a part of this country, even if it means risking their lives.

#FocusImmigration has given all of us a chance to reconnect with our roots, no matter how deep they may stem.

For me, it is a reminder that I am forever grateful for the decision my family made in 1908. If they didn’t immigrate when they did, they could have possibly perished in the Holocaust and I wouldn’t be here today to retell their story.

I forgot to mention the second thing I thank my great-grandfather for. He passed down a gene that most people recognize me for and one that I cannot picture myself without. Irving was a ginger, who ironically married a woman named Virginia, who their grandchildren called Grandma Ginger.

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Photo courtesy of Diane Pasternack

Irving Kulberg’s parents , Abraham Kulberg and Rachel Kulberg pose in a photo with their four children.

Rebecca Serviss, a journalism major, is in her first year as opinion editor for The Montclarion.

The Montclarion

"In America, the President reigns for four years,
but Journalism governs forever." – Oscar Wilde

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ENTERTAINMENT

Student Artist Profile: Paolo Punay

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Paolo Punay poses in his traditional Filipino inspired clothing he designed.

Mackenzie Robertson | *The Montclarion*

Paolo Punay is a senior at Montclair State University and is a BFA studio major with a concentration in painting. Through his exploration of his own culture, Punay grasps for what it means to be Filipino and uses fashion as a social statement. He spoke with *The Montclarion* contributing writer Soraya Mitta about his exploration of his own country's heritage.

Q: Can you tell me a little bit about your thesis project entitled, 'Balikbayan'?

A: It has to do with the effects of colonization on native Filipino populations because I feel like that history still has to be tapped into. There is a lot of potential in that subject matter because a lot of countries around the world have similar problems, so it's something of a universal idea that can be mined for potential projects. That's the reason why I chose it, I guess. That and it's something that I want to learn more about because I don't know too much about my own country.

Q: What is your personal connection to the Philippines?

A: I was born there and I lived there until I was 7 years old, because that's when my mom immigrated to this country to become a nurse. She was already a nurse but she wanted to get a better job for her family. This thesis is a way for me to learn more about my history that I missed because once I left, I didn't know anything about Filipino history, so this is like a chance for me to revisit that.

Q: What is the symbolism behind the objects in your work and their placement?



Some of the elements used to create Punay's work, *Balikbayan*, are situated together. Photo courtesy of Paolo Punay



Punay points to his blank map, explaining how he plans to place his fabric. Mackenzie Robertson | *The Montclarion*

A: I'm still trying to figure that out, to be honest. That's why it's still a work in progress, but I want to try to use regular-looking objects and have some kind of narrative about them that relates to the history of the Philippines. I have this idea of having this straw hat that rice planters wear, and have bags of rice hanging from it and then it's like you could wear it and it has something to do with how the first president 'of the Philippines' sold out the Philippines for 400,000 pesos. I wanted to replace the pesos with rice because you can feel the weight of that when you wear the object, so I want to try to use regular objects and re-imagine them into art pieces.

Q: What are your thoughts on cultural appropriation?

A: I have this idea of appropriation because I find appropriation a funny subject. Where it's like, only one culture can do this kind of thing, only you can do this kind of thing because you are that culture, so I want to play with this idea of, 'Well, it's human culture, so why can't we share it all for us?' If it's coming from the same root. That's, I guess, a reason. That's why I like to juxtapose things, because it shows you that we are all the same. We all have commonalities, but it is the differences that make us who we are. And I wanted to emphasize that.

Q: When did you know you wanted to be an artist?

A: I had an inkling when I was about maybe eight or nine when I drew an anime head and I was like, 'Oh that looks good.' But what really



Punay talks about his hopes for his current project.

Mackenzie Robertson | *The Montclarion*

“We all have commonalities, but it is the differences that make us who we are. And I wanted to emphasize that.”

- Paolo Punay, senior art studio major



Punay goes through his project notebooks and explains the plans for his project.

Mackenzie Robertson | *The Montclarion*



Punay examines his fabric of choice to place on a map.

Mackenzie Robertson | *The Montclarion*

fed me was in high school. That’s what I was really into in high school, and then it was the praise people gave you. So I kept dialing it in and I was like, it’s the only thing I’m good at so, I got to do something with it.

Q: What brought you to the Montclair State Art Department?

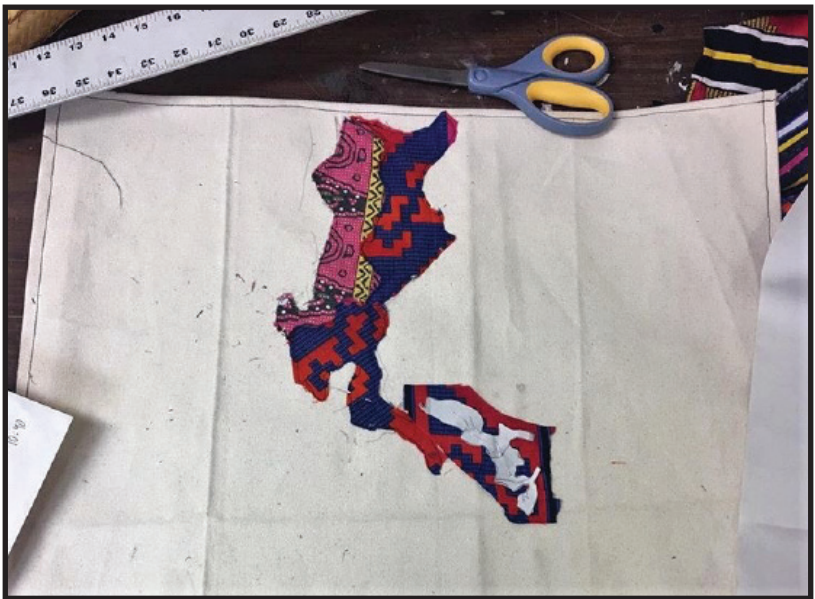
A: What brought me here was my teacher. My English teacher senior year of high school recommended this place because his sister went here, and he said it has a good program. So, I was like, ‘Alright, sounds like a good place to go, so I’ll go.’ And it’s not William Paterson, so I went here.

Q: Can you define what ‘Balikbayan’ means?

A: ‘Balikbayan’ literally translates to ‘back to your country,’ so the concept, or the idea of balikbayan box, is taking stuff from the United States or any foreign country that the Filipino diaspora spread them out to, and send everything that they have, like clothes, food, toys and stuff, sending it back to the Philippines, so that everybody benefits from it.

Q: Why did you choose to name your work that?

A: I chose to use ‘Balikbayan’ because that’s what I want to do with this work, is try to go back to my country and see what I can learn from it, what I can show people, that makes the Philippines unique. I guess that’s a reason why I chose that title because I have been going back and forth about the title, but I guess it works for what I want it to be.



The early stages of Punay’s fabric shows a map of the Philippines.

Photo courtesy of Paolo Punay



The fabric and mannequins that make up Punay’s Balikbayan display are grouped together.

Photo courtesy of Paolo Punay

Q: What are your plans for the future?

A: Try to find a job? Not starve? I have no idea to be honest. The dream is, or the goal at least, is to become a painting professor or something to do with curating or, what’s it called, conservation? I love working on stuff that’s already been made, if that makes sense. That’s an aspect of conservation I love, which is like, it’s already there. It’s already almost perfect, you just have to make it perfect. That’s the reason why I like conservation, which doesn’t make sense why I’m a painting major. But you know what? Two more semesters.

Q: What do you want people to take away from your work when they look at it?

A: I want them to take away some history of who the Filipinos are, what they are about and a deeper understanding of global politics in a way. Because it’s like, this may just be one country, but this topic applies to loads of other countries that have suffered from colonization and imperialism, so I want them to learn that this situation isn’t entirely unique to one place and it’s something that can be applied everywhere.

Q: Dealing with all the issues with immigration in America right now, is your art work making a statement toward those kinds of issues?

A: I don’t think so. I’m more focused on education rather than trying to say a specific message, in a way, because I don’t want to berate people with like, ‘This is my political philosophy, blah, blah, blah.’ It’s more of like, ‘This is what I learned from this and I hope you guys learned from it, too.’ So, I guess it’s the educator in me.

Keeping the Culture Alive: Vibrant Latin Dance Culture in the US

FOCUS

IMMIGRATION



Julissa Espino, a dancer and physical education major, models a dance position inspired by African Dance. Teresa Gomez | The Montclarion

Teresa Gomez
Assistant Feature Editor

To be immersed in a different world – the feeling, the release, the freedom and the beauty – that’s the gift of dance.

Ana Lourdes Novoa graduated from La Escuela Nacional de Arte in Havana, Cuba. Novoa graduated from Escuela Nacional De Arte and became Prima Ballerina of the English National Ballet and soloist of the Cuban National Ballet. She had the opportunity to dance all the roles in all of the ballets. She is now teaching in the Manhattan, New York City and New Jersey areas.

“I wanted to start teaching here in New York because my friend Caridad Martinez was already here at Ballet Hispánico,” Novoa said. “She danced with me in the company, and she brought the level of the Cuban Methodology here. I wanted to transmit all my years of experience to the next generation.”

After the Cuban revolution in 1959, there were no diplomatic relations or embassy with people outside of Cuba. So, many Cubans immigrated to the United States and could not talk to or see family.

“The first tour in 1968, the Cuban National Ballet went to Paris. I remember 10 dancers in the company stayed in Paris and did not come back,” Novoa said. “Two came to America to teach. They brought stronger technique and competition.”

She believes Cuban dancers have a strong technique because they brought the best teachers from different countries, such as Russia and France, which also known for their styles in ballet to teach at the school. As a result of being taught all the different styles in one school, they were more diverse.

Anilce Scasso trained at the School of Ballet in Havana, Cuba and now adds the concept of the Cuban Methodology.

“The Cuban Ballet School was created with the acquisition and experiences of the best schools and methods in the world,” Scasso said. “Its creators focused on the Cuban method more, adapted to our dancers and to our socio-cultural environment.”

The Escuela Nacional Ballet De Cuba (The Cuban National Ballet School) in Havana, Cuba is the most prominent ballet school in the world with 3,000 students. Cuban ballet dancers are highly sought after for their talent, passion, strong technique and discipline.

The students at the school train in ballet, modern and flamenco from as young as 8 years old to adulthood. The program lasts for eight years and acceptance is through audition only. This program also requires students to undergo a medical exam – to check if they have the facility of a dancer, a biometric exam and artistic and nutritional conditions. Students must partake in the ballet exams every year.

Former President Jimmy Carter reopened relations with Cuba in 1978, marking the first time that the Cuban National Ballet was able to perform in the U.S. Many teachers from Cuba began to share their knowledge of the Cuban Methodology.

Not only are Cuban dances being shared but many other styles and forms of dances from throughout Latin America are being passed down

to the new generations. Passionate dance educators share the importance of spreading the values of heritage, community, histories and culture of Latin America.

“It’s important we share this because it keeps the culture alive,” said Kiri Avelar, associate school director of Ballet Hispánico.

Not all Latin American dances are the same. There are different styles, but they have an essential similarity in keeping the culture alive. Various places in Latin America have many different dances, including Puerto Rico, Mexico, Spain, the Dominican Republic, Colombia and Cuba. Basically, all of North, Central and South America is well-known for various styles. Flamenco, ballet, West African dance, Afro-Cuban, Afro-Caribbean and various social dances, such as salsa and Rumba, are some examples.

David Morgan, a professor at Montclair State University, believes it’s important for students to experience another country and its culture.

“There are movements, language, history. Aside from the basics of flexibility, muscle toning, spacial awareness and balance, it is so much fun,” Morgan said. “You will discover talents that you did not know you have.”

Morgan incorporates traditional movements in his world dance course on campus. He has been teaching Afro-Brazilian art of Capoeira with samba & maculele since 2002. Brazil is composed of a mix of African, Native and European people. All the cultural influences from the past 500 years combined includes African, Caribbean and Latin American. All those cultures add their traditions and their folkloric history.

Julissa Espino has been a student of the World Dance course and feels she has deepened her knowledge in various ways through dancing. The focus was mostly on Capoeira but the samba that was incorporated was an enjoyable experience for her and showed the celebration of life.

“It was fun and interesting. I like the dynamics, and I had a great experience,” Espino said. “Samba was incorporated, which was interesting. Being able to obtain more knowledge is great because now I know more about another country besides the one I grew up in.”

The values of learning heritage, history and community from Latin America through dance brings these traditions to the new generation while keeping the culture alive.



Student Julissa Espino leaps in a tilt, mid-air, at the Department of Theatre and Dance at Montclair State University. Teresa Gomez | The Montclarion

New Challengers Approach: Apple vs Google



This graphic, created by Adrian Maldonado, depicts how Apple Arcade and Google Stadia innovate the future of gaming.

Photo courtesy of Apple and Google

Adrian Maldonado
Staff Writer

When it comes to the technology industry, Apple and Google are known for being rivals. This rivalry has just expanded to a new territory: Gaming. Both companies have recently announced their own gaming service, each with its own unique concept. Just like a game controller, the fate of these companies will lay in the hands of the gamers.

At the 2019 Game Developers Conference, Google announced their new gaming platform, Stadia. Stadia is a cloud gaming service for playing AAA titles that is capable of streaming video games in 4K HDR resolution at 60 frames per second and being playable on multiple devices, such as laptops, desktops, select phones and tablets as long as it has the Google Chrome application and a high-speed internet connection.

In the near future, Google is planning to support 8K resolution with up to 120 frames per second. No updates or download is required to play a game, the only thing needed is to watch a gameplay video on YouTube. The video offers a button to “play now” that jumps directly into the game in a matter of seconds. Users can also join the video games of other users that are streaming games through YouTube.

Google Stadia can be played with existing new controllers on a PC, but during the conference, Google unveiled its own special Stadia controller. This new controller has special features in order to make the gaming experience more memorable. The new features included in this new controller are a smart device detection, a share button and a Google Assistant button.

During the 2019 Apple Event, the company announced Apple Arcade, a monthly Netflix-like video game subscription that brings over 100 exclusive iOS titles, such as upcoming indie games and AAA franchises to your device. Some of the confirmed lineup for Apple Arcade include “Sonic Racing,” “The Artful Escape,” “Hot Lava,” “Where Cards Fall” and many others.

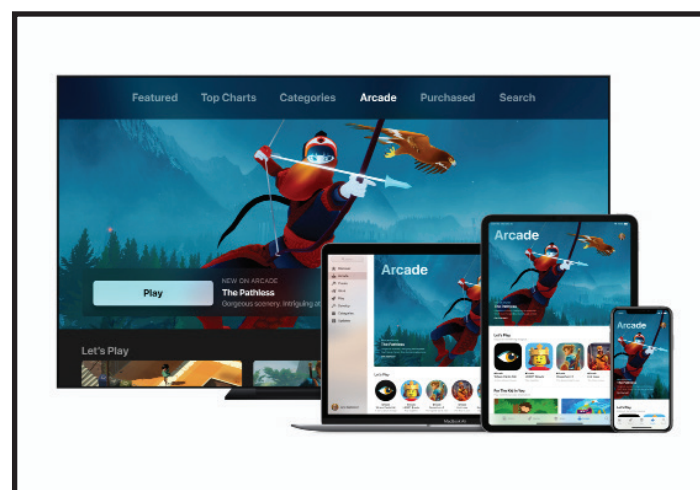
This monthly subscription has no ads, no in-app purchases and the user can play from a wide variety of video games which will be constantly updated with new titles. Unlike Google Stadia, Apple Arcade can be played offline, just as long as the video game application is downloaded beforehand. Additionally, a single subscription gives users access to share their service with six other people at no extra cost.

Apple is handpicking and contributing to the development cost of the games in Apple Arcade and will be working closely with the developers to bring their ideas and concepts to life. The service will include games from companies such as SEGA, Cartoon Network, Konami, LEGO and many more.



Photo courtesy of Apple and SEGA

“Team Sonic Racing” features many Sonic characters in a racing game.



Apple Arcade can be played on many devices.

Photo courtesy of Apple



The new Google Stadia controllers come in a variety of colors.

Photo courtesy of Google

When asked about Google Stadia and Apple Arcade, Montclair State University students had a lot to say about these companies stepping into new territory. Faisal Bukhari, a sophomore majoring in information technology, is doubtful on what the goals are for Google Stadia and Apple Arcade.

“It seems like Apple and Google are just trying to make money off gaming instead of actually getting into the gaming industry to make their fans happy,” Bukhari said. “It might be a good idea having games in a cloud service, which seems to be the next step for gaming since physical copies are becoming irrelevant now that you can buy it digitally, but I’m not convinced yet and probably won’t be subscribing to either of them.”

Joseph Galan, a senior majoring in exercise science, seems to be interested in some of the games Apple Arcade will offer. However, he is still not fully on-board with this new idea.

“My first impression of Apple Arcade was slightly disinterested. I’m not a huge gamer and only certain games genuinely excite me, like ‘Elder Scrolls’ and ‘Fallout,’” Galan said. “It seems very similar to Xbox’s Game Pass but with original games. I will admit that some of the original games look pretty good to be played on my iPhone.”

Galan thinks that this is definitely a big step for the gaming industry’s future but he’d rather be loyal to Microsoft instead.

“As for Google Stadia, I was admittedly astounded by the idea of having virtually no barrier between internet surfing and instantaneous gaming,” Galan said. “I’m not sure if I’m ready for that kind of change. I have been a faithful Xbox gamer since the first one came out, and I don’t see myself giving up on my Xbox and all my achievements any time soon.”

As many students are not fully convinced on these services, Kamran Ahmad, a senior majoring in psychology and minoring in sociology, is willing to give these services a try. He is interested in how other video game companies will react toward these services.

“When I saw the Stadia, my first impression was that it would make Sony and Microsoft step their game up for the next console generation,” Ahmad said. “I’ll be sure to try both Stadia and Apple Arcade when they come out. I have an iPhone and it would be cool to see Apple implement iPhone into the upcoming software.”

More details on the Google Stadia will be released this summer and the platform is expected to be released in the United States, United Kingdom, Canada and most of Europe in late 2019. Apple Arcade will launch in the fall of 2019 and is set to be released in over 150 countries. Pricing details for Google Stadia and Apple Arcade have not been announced.

Top Picks to Stream

#FOCUS

IMMIGRATION

‘The Namesake’
on Starz

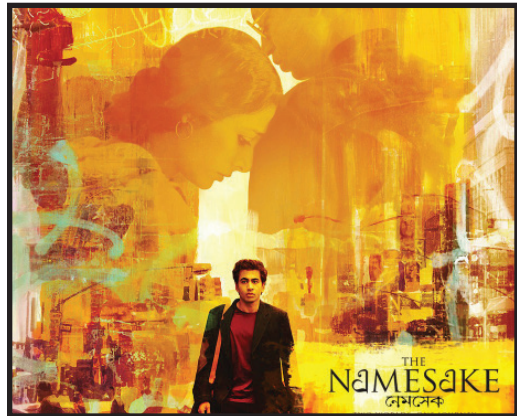


Photo courtesy of Fox Searchlight Pictures

“The Namesake” is directed by Mira Nair and based on the critically-acclaimed novel by Jhumpa Lahiri. The film tells the story of Ashoke and Ashima, a young Indian couple immigrating to the United States in 1977. Ashoke and Ashima struggle to adapt to their new American life and try to raise a family. The film also shows the life of Ashoke and Ashima’s son, Gogol, played by Kal Penn, as he grows up as both an American and an Indian who attempts to understand his own identity. “The Namesake” is a moving film that not only depicts the hardships of immigrants, but the journey many children of immigrants must go through while living in the U.S. This film’s themes of identity, family and culture can resonate with those with their own immigration stories. “The Namesake” is definitely a meaningful film about immigration to stream.

- Sharif Hasan
Assistant Entertainment Editor

‘The Terminal’
on Max Go



Photo courtesy of Dreamworks Productions

“The Terminal” is a 2004 film about a man named Viktor Navorski, a citizen of the fictional European country of Krakozhia. Upon arriving at John F. Kennedy Airport in New York, he learns that a civil war broke out in his country during his journey and is not granted permission to enter the United States. He is not allowed to return to his home country either as the government was overthrown, so he is left with no choice but to take refuge in the airport terminal. Inspired by the true story of Mehran Karimi Nasseri, Navorski is played by the outstanding Tom Hanks, and features supporting performances from Stanley Tucci, Catherine Zeta-Jones, Diego Luna and Zoe Saldana. With music composed by the legendary John Williams and with director Steven Spielberg at the helm, this heartwarming movie is sure to be a moving experience for the entire family.

- Thomas Neira
Entertainment Editor

Zachary Levi Says ‘Shazam!,’ Audiences Say ‘Awesome’



Shazam (Zachary Levi) and Freddy Freeman (Jack Dylan Grazer) see the wonders of his newly gained powers. Photo courtesy of Warner Bros. Pictures

William Beavers
Staff Writer

Zachary Levi and Warner Bros. Pictures put their best foot forward in “Shazam!” With excessive humor, action and heartwarming stories about family, it is a superhero film worth watching. As much as I liked watching “Wonder Woman,” “Justice League” and “Aquaman,” I think this might be the best entry to the DC Extended Universe. The film is about a teenager named Billy Batson, played by Asher Angel, who struggles with being separated from his mother and constantly being placed in foster care. Little does he realize that there’s more than a loving family in store for him. One day, he comes across a powerful wizard, played by Djimon Hounsou, who gives him magical powers. By calling out “Shazam!” Billy transforms into an adult, played by Zachary Levi, and has the power of speed, flight, strength and summoning lightning. With these powers, it’s up to Shazam to save the people of Philadelphia from Thaddeus Sivana, played by Mark Strong, who has a dark agenda for the hero’s gifts. While watching the movie, I could hear the audience cheer every time Shazam tested out his new abilities. It was funny watching him try to fly, shoot lightning bolts and become immune to gunshots. Another thing to love about the film is the chemistry between Billy and his foster brother, Freddy Freeman, played by Jack Dylan Grazer. I loved seeing Freddy’s enthusiasm for other DC superheroes, and trying to make this one an internet celebrity. One major highlight was Freddy being there to remind Shazam to use his powers for good instead of greed, and that Billy has a family that loves him and has his back. As for Strong as Sivana, he looked menacing when he

got infused with dark powers and turned on his family and Shazam. There was some humor when he did this in a black trench coat and sunglasses hiding his glowing blue right eye. Strong’s character came off as a bit of a tragic villain, having been abused by his father and brother and being told that he’d never be a success. In a way, Billy and Sivana are similar, as they both came from rough upbringings and have to repent their own selfish needs to become better people. Writers Henry Gayden and Darren Lemke did a great job in incorporating these ideas into the story. It’s by learning how to repent the sins of the past and rewrite the future that allows Shazam to mature. The conflict between Hounsou’s and Strong’s characters reminded me of Jor-El and Zod in “Man of Steel.” The similarity comes from their debate over who has a better chance of survival: Someone pure of heart over someone that believes violent war will end any perceived corruption. In addition to the humor and story, I loved the soundtrack and scoring by Benjamin Wallfisch. Songs from Queen and The Ramones add an exciting vibe to scenes featuring the hero. Also, I appreciated the visual effects when Shazam springs into action. One thing that may throw people off is when the Seven Deadly Sins monsters begin to devour their victims. The costume of Levi’s character was well-designed. The fancy white cape, red suit and lightning bolt symbol made Shazam look daring in combat. As a whole, “Shazam!” is an excellent film by DC and fronted by Levi. The combination of humor, family and action makes it a film for movie and comic book fans alike. If you want to see this kind of package in a non-Marvel film for a change, I recommend you watch “Shazam!,” now playing in theaters.



Shazam/Billy Batson and his foster family prepare to face Thaddeus Sivana. Photo courtesy of Warner Bros. Pictures

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This Week In Red Hawk Sports
THU 4/11 Baseball vs. Rutgers-Newark 3:30 p.m.
FRI 4/12 Baseball at Rutgers-Newark 3:30 p.m.
SAT 4/13 Baseball at Rutgers-Camden 11:30 a.m. Women's Lacrosse vs. Rutgers-Camden 1 p.m. Softball vs. The College of New Jersey 1 p.m. Baseball at Rutgers-Camden 2:30 p.m. Softball vs. The College of New Jersey 3 p.m. Men's Lacrosse at Bryn Athyn College 3 p.m.
SUN 4/14 No games
MON 4/15 Men's Lacrosse at Merchant Marine Academy TBA
TUE 4/16 Softball at New Jersey City University 3 p.m. Baseball at Arcadia University 3:30 p.m. Softball at New Jersey City University 5 p.m.
WED 4/17 Men's Lacrosse vs. Centenary College 7 p.m.

Two Montclair State Ice Hockey Players Make All-Star Challenge

Freshman Porth and senior Buckel will play in first All-Star game



Goaltender Danny Porth is representing the Red Hawks in the ACHA All-Star games.

Ben Caplan | The Montclarion

Samantha Impaglia
Assistant Sports Editor

Although the Montclair State men's ice hockey team's regular season is over, senior left wing Michael Buckel and freshman goaltender Danny Porth still have a few games to play.

They will be competing in the 2019 American Collegiate Hockey Association (ACHA) All-Star Challenge representing the Super East Collegiate Hockey League (SECHL).

Buckel was third on the team in points this past season, scoring 13 goals for the Red Hawks as well as three assists. He served as an alternate captain alongside captains Lucas Prospero, Daniel Diner and Michael Nordstrom. Buckel played three years for Montclair State, totaling 49 points in 70 games played. This will be his first appearance in the All-Star Challenge.

"I'm very excited to lace them up one last time representing our league and Montclair State by playing against the other league's all stars from around the country," Buckel said. "This is a great way to end my college career."

Porth is one of the few freshman to qualify for the games. He put up a .924 save percentage in his 15 games played for Montclair State this season, with a final record of 7-6-2. He came to play for the Red Hawks after taking gap years to

play junior hockey.

"No matter if you are a freshman or a fifth-year senior you never expect to be chosen for something like this," Porth said. "My goal coming into the season was to contribute, however that may be, to make the Red Hawks program better. A goaltender being selected is much less an individual achievement than it is a teams' and I am just happy I was able to do my part to help this team win hockey games."

The last time any Mont-

clair State players have made the All-Star challenge was two years ago, with alumni Sam Enright and Chris Preziosi representing the Red Hawks.

Buckel and Porth have both had successful seasons and are now being rewarded for it. With Porth making the games as a freshman, it proves that the team's large freshman class this season is a talented one.

Buckel and Porth emphasized how them being selected for the All-Star challenge is not just an individual ef-

fort but a team one. The two have worked together along with their other teammates to play every game at their hardest.

"Very rarely is a goaltender an all-star without the immense support of their teammates around them," Porth said. "A big contributor to a goalie's success is just how well they practice."

Porth further explained why this accomplishment was a team effort.

"When you have a team full of guys pushing you to do better day in and day out, it makes it easy giving that extra effort in practice, and it is directly translated into the performance on game days," Porth said. "Whether it be your teammates scoring that one extra goal to make you more comfortable, or your defense bailing you out of a bad situation, no goalie is in this position without his teammates."

Although the team did not have a season they particularly liked, going into the All-Star challenge with two players representing the Red Hawks will show the rest of the leagues there that the team does have talent.

"The boys helped by pushing each other in games and practices to make you the best player you can be," Buckel said.

The series of games will take place in Westchester, Pennsylvania at Ice Line Quad Rinks over the weekend of April 11.



Ben Caplan | The Montclarion

Senior left wing Micheal Buckel scored 13 goals this season for the Red Hawks, leading him to the All-Star roster.

Red Hawks Baseball: 2 The College of New Jersey: 6	Red Hawk Recap	Red Hawks Baseball: 7 DeSales University: 8
Red Hawks Softball: 8,13 Drew University: 3,2	Red Hawks Baseball: 3,3 Stockton University: 4,8	Red Hawks Softball: 3,6 Rutgers Camden: 2,5
Red Hawks Women's Lacrosse: 3 The College of New Jersey: 14	Red Hawks Baseball: 0 The College of New Jersey: 3	Red Hawks Women's Lacrosse: 17 Kean University: 8
	Red Hawks Men's Lacrosse: 23 Rosemont College: 1	Red Hawks Baseball: 5 Drew University: 7

Student Athlete Profile: Rafael Terci

Kylie Mocarski
Contributing Writer

Rafael Terci is a senior captain on the Montclair State University men’s soccer team. When he was one and a half years old, he and his family immigrated from Campinas, Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Terci’s father came to Newark, New Jersey a couple months before the big move to secure a job opportunity at an auto body shop. At the time, Newark had a very large Portuguese and Brazilian community, which made the transition very easy for the Tercis. As of now, only Terci’s immediate family lives in the United States while all of his extended family still lives in Brazil.

The Terci family uses Portuguese as their household language. Due to language barriers, Terci helps his parents with small things, such as dealing with hospital paper work or calling their cable company. When the young Terci was still learning both languages, he had some trouble.

“Growing up, I would mix up my words,” Terci said. “I would say a sentence and it would be half Portuguese and

half English.”

Other than learning two languages, the transition to America was easy for Terci. Since he has his green card, he does not have any problems when applying for jobs or registering for school unlike some of his friends.

Coming from the Brazilian culture, soccer is Terci’s passion and one love.

“It’s the reason why I play,” Terci said.

He started playing the game at four years old and competed for many elite club teams during his youth. While in high school and competing for the New York Red Bulls Academy, Terci committed to play soccer for Stony Brook University on an athletic scholarship.

However, there was a switch of plans and he withdrew his commitment at Stony Brook to play soccer at Montclair State in 2015. Terci reasoned that he wanted to be closer to home and joined Montclair State because his older brother, Lucas, was on the team.

During his time at Montclair State, Terci led his team to two New Jersey Athletic Conference (NJAC) championships and the Elite Eight in the Division III National

Championship Tournament. He was named First Team South Atlantic All-Region and First Team All-NJAC.

Now that Terci’s college career is over, he plays for FC Copa, a National Premier Soccer League semi-professional team. He hopes to use this time to train in order to become a professional soccer player.

While preparing diligently for soccer, he is in the process of becoming a U.S. Citizen. In August, he plans on going back to Brazil for his cousin’s wedding. The beloved Brazilian game of soccer has guided Terci’s life to where he is now. A career in soccer is what the 22-year-old dreams of.



Kylie Mocarski | The Montclarion
Rafael Terci plays in a 2018 match against Rowan University.

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— IMMIGRATION —

Find these student athlete immigration videos and other immigration content at focusimmigration.org.



Photo courtesy of Axel Urgiles

Axel Urgiles never really had a passion for wrestling until he came to America. Being from Ecuador, he and his siblings would throw around a ball and play catch outside. When he arrived here, his parents decided it would be a unique idea to play football because it was an “American thing.” They suggested soccer as well. This didn’t go well for Axel. He constantly had to hide that he was going to wrestling practice.

When his parents found out, his mom wasn’t too happy about his choice. Regardless of what his parents thought, his teammates and coaches have always been very supportive. As president of the Montclair State University club wrestling team, his love for the sport continues.

Video by Janice Fong



Photo courtesy of Ponsee Ibrahim

Montclair State University swimmer Ponsee Ibrahim moved to New Jersey eight years ago after the Egyptian revolution of 2011 started. Back in her hometown, there was little support and encouragement for her swimming career. In the United States, she feels like she can achieve her dreams. This experience is giving her a voice and an opportunity to be heard and help change people’s perceptions of what a refugee is.

Video by Rotana Vian

Student Athlete Profile: Lazaro Valdes

Corey Annan
Assistant Sports Editor

Before Lazaro Valdes was breaking records for the Union City High School swim team and a top swimmer for the Montclair State University Red Hawks men's swimming team, he had to figure out a way to reach the United States.

Growing up in La Havana, Cuba, Valdes' father left him for Spain when he was just a baby. For most of his time in Cuba, he was raised by his mother, who was a doctor. Despite not having a father figure in his early childhood, Valdes stated that he had a very pleasant childhood growing up.

"Since we didn't have computers or smartphones like that, for me I always liked to go outside and play baseball at the park and be around my friends," Valdes said.

Valdes also said the education he received growing up was very advanced, especially in mathematics. It even helped him when he eventually came to the U.S.

Outside of that, life for Valdes and his family wasn't always easy. Communism in Cuba made life hard for their family, as they never enjoyed the same freedoms that are enjoyed in noncommunist countries. To make matters worse, travel restrictions at the time between Cuba and the U.S. meant they couldn't immigrate directly here.

However, an opportunity arose. His mother was able to negotiate with the Cuban government to allow her to go to Haiti to aid in the humanitarian crisis in Haiti in 2008.

She spent the next few years in Haiti to help rebuild the country, which was extended due to the 2010 earthquake that destroyed much of the country. As soon as she was finished with her work in Haiti, she broke her contract with the Cuban government by going to Jamaica and later settling in the United States.

During those three years, Valdes did not see his mother. He lived with his grandparents in Cuba. Valdes credited his grandparents for raising him during this time and explained the reason why his mother was gone. His grandmother always reinforced that he would even-



Photo courtesy of Lazaro Valdes

From left to right: Teammates Tyler Dorsett, Kevin Gibson, Lazaro Valdes and Greg Karback pose at the Metropolitan Championship.

tually see her again.

Valdes and his grandparents knew they had to eventually reunite him and his mother. Unfortunately, the Cuban government punished the family by banning him and his family from leaving the country after finding out about his mother escape.

Valdes' mother sought out her friend to write up "documents" claiming that Valdes was mentally insane and needed to leave Cuba to see his mother. The documents were able to allow Valdes to immigrate to Spain.

Although he was only meant to stay in Spain for a year, as his mother was planning to fly Valdes back to the U.S., Spain was a tough transition for Valdes, who had to learn a complete dialect in his short time there.

"I moved to an area in Spain where they actually spoke Catalan, which was a different dialect," Valdes said. "I wasn't even allowed to speak Spanish in school, only the dialect."

Despite this, Spain gave him the opportunity to reunite not only with his dad but with his sisters in which his dad had taken with him to Spain.

Valdes and his mother finally reunited in the U.S. in 2012 after she settled in Miami. He explained the feeling he had when

he had first reunited with his mother at the airport.

"It was one of the happiest days of my life for sure, we cried and hugged for a good five minutes," Valdes said. "It's one of those things that people who are immigrants can understand."

Valdes again had to adjust to a completely new country. His mother eventually would remarry, giving him a more active father figure in his life.

He also had to learn English, despite having taken basic English courses in Cuba. He maintained that he really hadn't been properly taught the language, and it took him a while to become fluent. The adjustment of learning a new language would also affect his schoolwork. He was even in danger of repeating a grade in middle school but was able to pass with the help of his mother.

Things would turn around in high school as his parents moved from Miami to Union City, New Jersey. During his freshman year, he was asked to join the Union City High School swim team.

"I have always known how to swim, and I was told to swim for Union City High School so I could stay in



Photo courtesy of Lazaro Valdes

Valdes (middle) poses with his mother, stepfather and brother on a trip to Italy.

shape for soccer, which was the sport I was playing at the time," Valdes said.

Although Valdes struggled his freshman year, he continuously dropped time every meet. By the time he was a senior, Lazaro had numerous swim records for Union City and was one of the top swimmers in Essex County.

"It was the best experience of my life [being a swimmer]," Valdes said. "I didn't really have experience with the sport, so it was nice to see the hard work pay off."

Outside of swimming, Valdes was able to grow close bonds with several of his classmates. However, Valdes particularly mentioned his high school best friends, Abraham, Anthony, Alea and Jeanne, for being the ones who really helped him get through any challenges he had.

Valdes would eventually commit to Montclair State, and like how many things have gone for him for most of his life, he had another challenge ahead of him.

"This season was really hard, having two practices a day and also having weight room," Valdes said. "These were things I never experienced at the high school level."

Valdes was able to eventually

adjust to the rigorous schedule and his times improved tremendously throughout the season and is now seen by many as an up-and-coming swimmer for the Red Hawks next season.

"I wasn't really confident going into the season, but eventually that confidence grew," Valdes said. "I was able to have the best meet of the season at the [Metropolitan Championship], in which I dropped times in all of my events."

Senior Mick VanOosten has seen first-hand how quickly Valdes has developed into a quality swimmer for the team.

"He's a great kid, and whenever he struggles, he always finds a way to push through it," VanOosten said. "He's always looking to learn something new."

Valdes also believes that his composure has helped him get through a lot of the struggles he had in his life.

"I think I have that workhorse mentality with everything that I do when it comes to swimming, or even school," Valdes said. "I always want to work hard in whatever I do."